The Middlebury Campus

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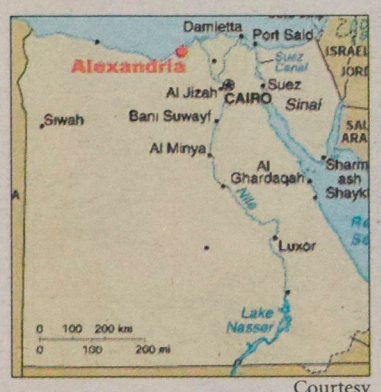
College launches first Arabic school abroad



Courtesy

By Zamir Ahmed
News Editor

The foundation of the C.V. Starr-Middlebury School Abroad in the Middle East marks the first such language school to be opened by any American institution, the College announced on Jan. 18. The school, located in Alexandria, Egypt and affiliated with Alexandria University, will offer courses to an estimated 15-20 students per semester beginning in the fall of 2007.

"The fact that we will have this sort of program — as far as we know, the only of its kind — will put Middlebury out front of other institutions when it comes to demonstrating the seriousness with which we take engaging the rest of the world in general, and the Middle East in particular," said Jeffrey Cason, dean of International Programs. "We have been building our academic year Arabic program for several years now and the number of students taking Arabic has increased every year. We would expect that to continue to grow, especially with the addition of the program in Alexandria."

The establishment of the school in Egypt follows an exploration period in which the College examined a number of sites for the possible location of the school. In the spring of 2006, Dean of Language Schools and Schools Abroad Michael Geisler, then Director of Off Campus Studies David Macey and Director of Arabic Language School Mahmoud Abdalla visited 10 universities in four countries in the Middle East to narrow down the list of potential sites for the school. After a follow-up visit by College officials in October 2006 to schools in Syria, Jordan and Egypt, Alexandria was chosen as the site for the new Arabic School Abroad.

"All three locations would have provided good environments for our program," said Geisler, "but we had to make a choice and decided that Alexandria, with its two millennia of history and cultural tradition and the superb library, was the best place to establish our first program in the Middle East."

With the addition of the new

See School, page 2

I Have a Dream...

Ilhan Kim

Actor Esau Pritchett leads a dramatic reading of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s famous "I have a dream" speech. From the spire of Mead Chapel to the intimate setting of the Ross Fireplace Lounge, King's message pervaded the College last week as students and community members honored the late civil rights leader's legacy.

Sunday Night Group holds summit on carbon neutrality

By Tom Brant
News Editor

On Sunday afternoon, a peculiar chant echoed throughout McCardell Bicentennial Hall. "It's too hot in here! Carbon action, lets get some satisfaction!"

The chant was the closing flourish of the Carbon Neutrality Summit, which ended Sunday, leaving its excited participants informed about the problems of global climate change.

The three-day summit, which attracted 80 student representatives from nearly 15 schools across the Northeast, was sponsored and organized by students in the college's Sunday Night Group (SNG). Events included panel discussions with climate change experts, small group sessions and the first steps toward drafting a "Climate Neutrality Statement."

"This was a historic event," said Jamie Henn '07, who helped organize the summit. "It shows that there's a growing movement on college campuses to do something about climate change, and I'm glad we were able to bring together so many people who are really wanting to make a difference."

On Saturday morning, the summit participants met with Dan Worth, from the National Environmental Law Society, and Mark Orlowsky, from the Sustainable Endowments Institute in an informal panel discussion.

"The goal of the talks was to give people resources," Henn explained. "We didn't want to have [the speakers] lecture."

The panel discussions with Worth, Orlowsky and other activists and experts gave participants advice on everything from reducing one's carbon footprint to investing in corporations that are socially

See Summit, page 4

Booking Bill: Behind the Scenes

Trustees dream big, court top choice speaker

By Ben Salkowe
Editor in Chief

Less than a day after students learned of Former President Bill Clinton's commitment to deliver the 2007 commencement address, rumors were flying as to how it happened. Some speculated there was a cozy golf match between Clinton and College trustees at a posh country club. Others thought there had to be a hefty speaker's fee that the College had committed to pay.

"We were joking that they probably used the money they saved on our Commencement speaker," said Hillary Johnson '02, co-president of the Boston Middlebury Alumni Association. Johnson said her class came after the legendary Mister Rogers speech but before a string of high-profile speakers from 2003-2005 that included Bill Richardson, Christopher and Dana Reeves, and Rudolph Giuliani. Johnson's speaker was science writer Dava Sobel.

But it was not money that sealed the deal with Clinton.

"We do not pay [commencement] speakers or give an honorarium," said Secretary of the College John Emerson. "In some instances in the past we have made a charitable contribution to a related charity, that is the exception."

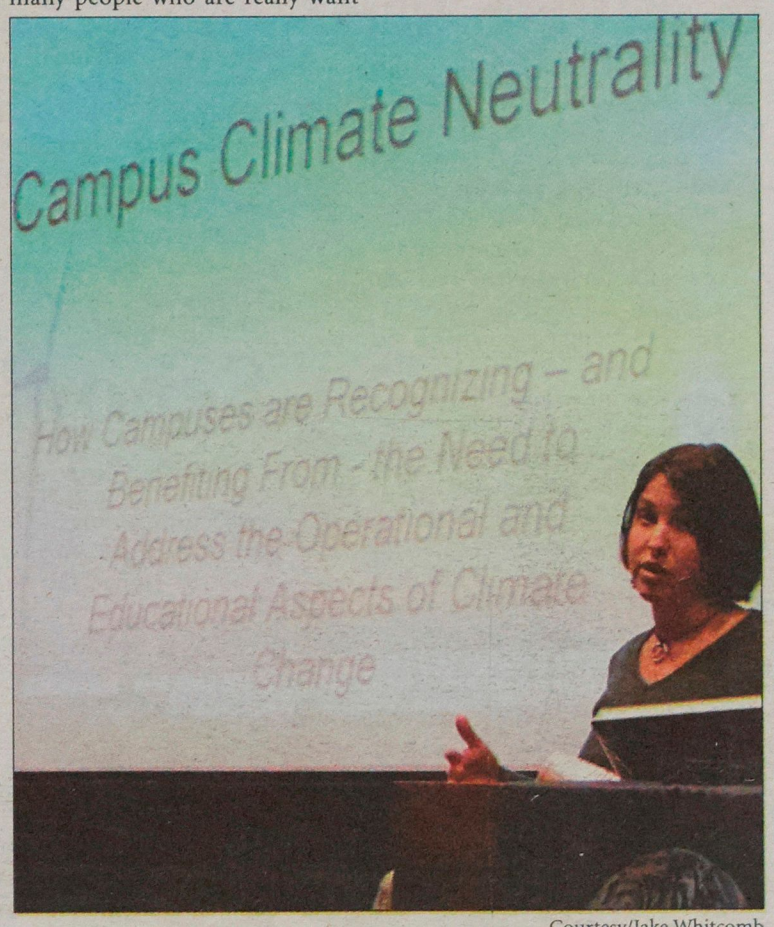
Emerson said he was not aware of any such charitable contribution arrangement made in recruiting Clinton.

Likewise, it also was not the nomination or work of the Honorary Degree Committee — as some Vermont media incorrectly reported — that led to Clinton's selection. Members of the Committee, which is officially responsible for submitting a short list of potential commencement speakers to President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and the Board of Trustees, said they did not include Clinton on either of the two short lists they created. Not be-

See Courting, page 5

Spoiler alert?

It's a favorite Clinton anecdote you might just hear in May: the 43rd President relates the story of his own Georgetown commencement ceremony, see page 5


Campus Climate Neutrality
How Campuses are Recognizing – and Benefiting From – the Need to Address the Operational and Educational Aspects of Climate Change

Courtesy/Jake Whitcomb

Jennifer Schroeder, a representative from Clean Air-Cool Planet, addresses the Carbon Neutrality Summit Saturday in McCardell Bicentennial Hall.

Wikipedia distresses History Dept.

By Brian Fung
News Editor

Faculty members of the College's Department of History recently passed a resolution forbidding students from using online interactive encyclopedia Wikipedia for academic assignments. The motion was passed unanimously on Tuesday, Jan. 9 after brief debate and is expected to take effect in February.

Kawashima Professor of Japanese Studies Neil Waters, who grew increasingly concerned with the reliability of the online encyclopedia after students began to cite it on essays and final exams, developed the new policy.

"Students are responsible for the accuracy of the information they give," said Waters. "They can't say, 'I saw it on Wikipedia and therefore that shields me.'"

The departmental statement, which was initially drafted by Waters, also forbids students from including Wikipedia in lists of bibliographic sources.

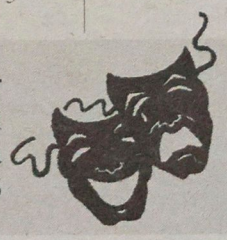
"Wikipedia is not an acceptable

See Professors, page 3

this week

yes, you can buy love
Don't be cheap. Find the best Valentine's Day gifts in town with our helpful guide, page 7

a child's view
Want to know if the experimental play *When I Was a Child* was a success? Read the review, page 16



remembering Dr. King
Middlebury honors the legacy of civil rights activist Martin Luther King, Jr., page 14

middbriefs

by Todd Swisher, Staff Writer

College in battle to save oldest tree on campus

Efforts are being made to prolong the life of a Norway spruce believed to have been struck by lightning this past summer. Located in front of the new library, the tree is the oldest on campus, with a plaque attesting to its origin circa 1860.

Signs of stress first appeared over the summer in the form of a large section of peeling bark and a crack in the trunk. Lab results indicated the damage is not due to a pest and the pattern is consistent with what a storm could do.

College horticulturist Tim Parsons has been watching the tree closely. This fall he and several associates prepared a special fertilizer to compensate for the lost bark. Gaps in this outer layer interfere with water's upward flow.

Parsons also oversaw a process known as "vertical mulching" wherein holes were bored into the ground and filled with nutritious material aiming to promote root growth.

Despite the current heroic efforts, the tree's health has continued to decline. While Parsons has not conceded yet, he is "very aggressive about replacing trees, as large campuses like [Middlebury's] need to be continually planting trees to compensate for normal decline." He encourages students to visit the landmark while they still can.

Hepburn elevator traps student after malfunction

Eri Nosaka '08 rode an elevator up and down Hepburn's five floors last week — against her will. Nosaka's destination was to be MiddXpress and she did not give a second thought to using the building's elevator. It had served her well in the past.

This time, it failed her. The elevator rose and fell from floor to floor without bothering to pause and open its doors. Imprisoned in a machine designed for convenience, Nosaka had to wait out a half-hour of mobile malfunction. Luckily, she is not claustrophobic, though the repeated motion did make her "a little nauseous."

Although alone in the elevator, Nosaka had a cell phone with her.

"I called a good friend of mine who talked to me for the majority of the time and kept my spirits high," she said. "My friend also called Public Safety to make sure they were doing something about it."

Nosaka was liberated before long but is concerned that something similar may happen again. While repairs have been made to this particular elevator, the elevator's inspection expired in March of 2006 and has not been updated. Facilities could not be reached for comment.

corrections

The Jan. 10 issue of *The Campus* misquoted Associate Professor of History William Hart regarding the William H. Rehnquist professorship ("Faculty casts close vote on Rehnquist," page 4). Hart's quote should have read: "Honoring such an individual whose actions were inimical to the values of Middlebury College is difficult to comprehend."

A photo caption in the Jan. 10 issue of *The Campus* incorrectly identified a satellite dish on top of McCardell Bicentennial Hall as part of the Ripton Wireless Co-op. The satellite is the College's radio telescope, used to collect data from satellites.

The Campus regrets these errors.

SGA outlines spring term agenda

By Leslie Lim
Staff Writer

During the latest meeting of the Student Government Association (SGA), President Alex Stanton '07 stated that this winter term has been a busy period, as meetings pave the way for spring projects. The SGA's highest priority, Stanton said, was "the reformation of the budget to create 'flex funds'" to address unexpected needs. The SGA is also overseeing the continued progress of the SafeRides initiative, the improvement of communication between the student body and the SGA and the transparency of the SGA committees.

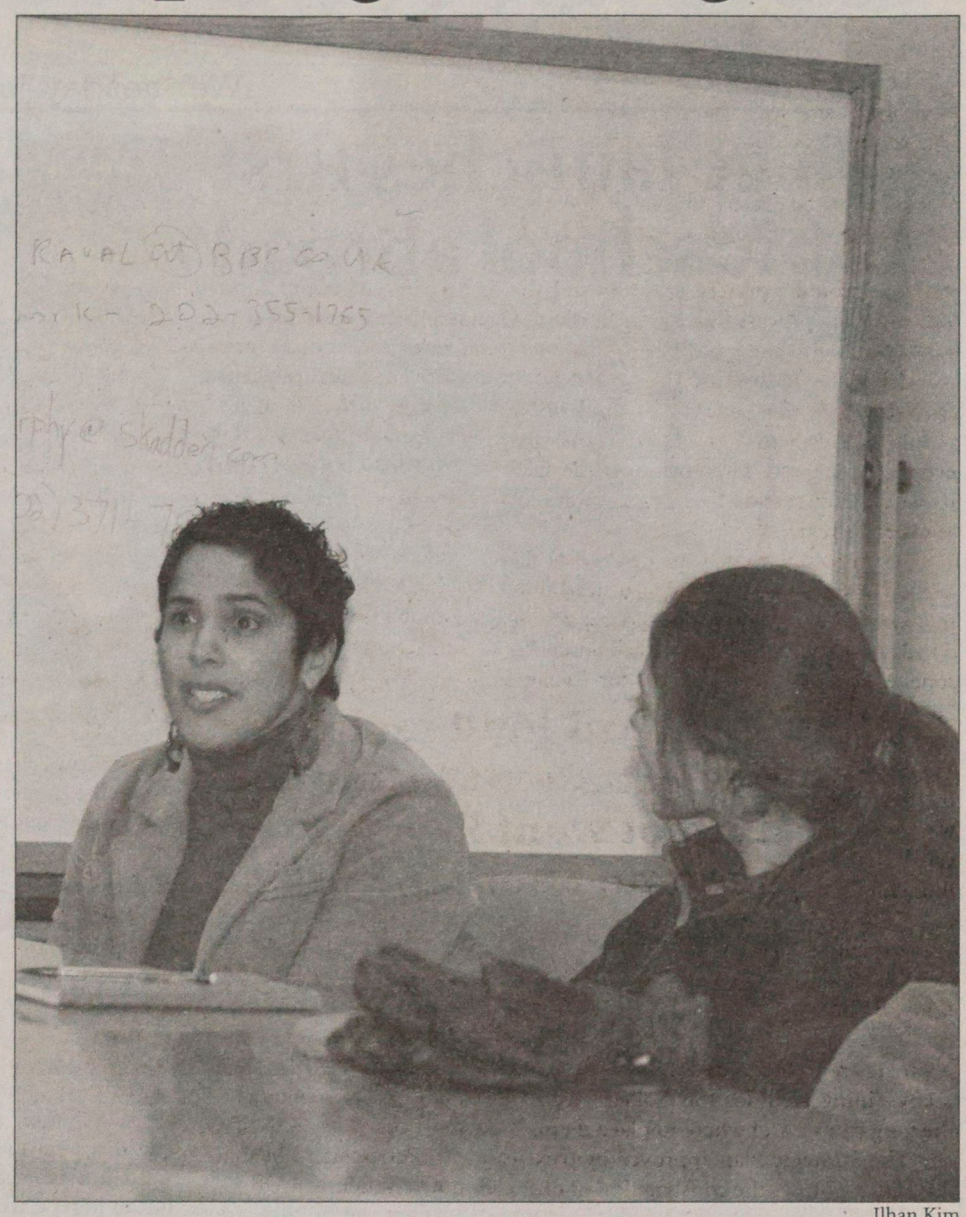
A number of newer projects are also in the works. In the coming months, the SGA hopes to bring another newspaper, the *Addison County Independent*, to its free newspaper program, on top of expanding wireless internet access across campus, scheduling a concert series in the spring, developing a formal social honor code, deliberating about room draw, replacing Napster and contributing to the focus report on carbon neutrality.

Budget reformation tops the SGA's to-do list. Currently, money from the College's Student Activities Fee goes directly to the 140 student groups on campus. However, Stanton stressed that if the money runs out unexpectedly, there is no reserve or flexibility to compensate for it. To ameliorate the problem, the SGA is proposing to increase the Student Activities' Fee from roughly $250 to $350. Compared to the rates of other NESCAC schools, Middlebury's fee currently ranks in the lower third.

"The original sum will still be directly allotted to the student groups," Stanton said. "But the increase will allow us to form specific funds that will be able to better address the needs of students."

"Flex funds" will be able to address unexpected needs, better preparing student groups' finances. The SGA will also create "banded funds" that will promote cooperation between student groups by tying together related financial resources. For example, different sports teams will be encouraged to share transportation by arranging events at similar times. For students seeking financial support for social gatherings, the SGA has proposed that yet another fund be made available. Stanton suggested that this fee increase could prevent the slashing of individual student group budgets, such as the 12.5 percent cut made in the fall.

Besides the budget adjustment, the SGA will continue working on the SafeRides initiative that was proposed earlier this academic year. The plan, which calls for transportation to and from off-campus parties, has already undergone one significant change: the SGA has now proposed using volunteer drivers rather than paid drivers, due to liability issues. By the end of the month, there will be a student group responsible for designing and implementing the SafeRides system. A trial run will be held at least once during the spring semester.



Ilhan Kim
Dean for Institutional Diversity Shirley Ramirez (left) addresses the SGA at its Jan. 21 meeting.

"Off-campus parties are a reality that needs to be addressed," Stanton said. But he reiterated the equal importance of alcohol education in addition to the growing availability of transportation resources on- and off campus. A drunk driving awareness week and possible educational workshops are currently in the works.

Stanton was pleased with better student body-government relations, as the SGA blog received more hits than expected. The SGA intends to redesign or change the table tents and the Middlebury events calendar in the dining hall for better communication. Stanton wants students to be informed about the proposed budget adjustments, and wants to keep channels of communication open, especially for potentially sensitive issues. The SGA Finance Committee office hours have been a popular channel for such communication. The hopes for increased SGA transparency are evident through the existence of open meetings, which are effective systems for addressing issues and concerns.

In its weekly meeting on Sunday, the SGA proposed and passed the suggestion of the Finance Committee to end its relations with Napster, the music-sharing program that the College currently offers to students. The College was initially able to acquire Napster with the generous donation of an anonymous benefactor. However, with the costs now shifted onto the Student Activities' Fee, the SGA has decided that the expense of roughly $10,000 a year is no longer financially advisable, considering the service's low usage rates. One possible alternative now under consideration is a service called Ruckus. If necessary, a completely new program may be designed.

School in Egypt to open in Fall 2007

Continued from page 1

Arabic School, the College currently operates study abroad programs in 30 cities in 12 countries around the world. While the College's program in the Middle East is the first of its kind, Geisler mentioned the potential for the opening of more schools in the region.

"Depending on student interest and the academic success of the program in Alexandria, other programs may be added in the future," said Geisler.

According to Cason, the College has been looking to establish an Arabic school abroad since the creation of the Arabic program.

"Certainly the idea for a School in the Middle East has been around since we first decided to offer Arabic during the academic year in 2003," said Cason. "Once it was clear that there was a high level of demand for Arabic, it was natural to consider how we might complement our offerings on campus with a study abroad program."

According to Geisler, the presence of the Arabic school in Alexandria also has the potential to attract students and faculty to the College's Arabic Summer Language School, which, as part of the College's Summer Language School program, plays an important role in bringing financial and academic resources to the College.

[We] decided that Alexandria, with its two millenia of history and cultural tradition and the superb library, was the best place to establish our first program in the Middle East.
—Dean Michael Geisler

"Our base in Alexandria may enable us to establish new contacts in several countries in the region both for possible future recruiting for the academic-year curriculum and also with a view to recruiting faculty for the Arabic Summer Language School which, under the expert guidance of Director Mahmoud Abdalla has witnessed a veritable explosion of applications over the past few years," said Geisler.

While the active recruitment stage of the project has yet to begin, Geisler believed that the number of Middlebury students who would study at the school would fall in line with the College's worldwide average for the other Schools Abroad that it operates.

"My best guess would be that we will have roughly two-thirds Middlebury students and one-third students from other institutions," said Geisler.

The creation of an Arabic school in Alexandria seems to be supported by those students involved in the Arabic program, who have already expressed interest in studying at the school.

"I think that Alexandria is a fantastic choice," said Nura Suleiman '07, who assisted in the process once the site was picked. "It's a beautiful city, and the university is quite spectacular. I went to Syria, and while I loved the opportunity to visit the country, I missed Middlebury's instruction there. A new site will be fantastic for future students. From what I can tell, the interest in this program is huge."

Trustees delay Proctor renovation decision until 2008

By Derek Schlickeisen
News Editor

Renovations to Proctor Dining Hall will be delayed for at least one year while the College reconsiders whether to invest in updating the building or start over with a new facility. Though planners ultimately balked at the $10 million price tag of the "bare bones" design developed last summer, they promised the delay would represent only a short pause in a planning process that has been revisited many times over the past fifteen years.

President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz made the decision to hold off on renovating Proctor amid concerns that even with expensive renovations, the facility would only remain functional for at most another 10 years.

"Is [renovating now] the best use of that money, or should we be thinking instead about building a new facility that would last another 50 years for $20-25 million?" asked Susan Personette, associate vice president for Facilities. "It is critical to invest with the confidence that whatever we do is the very best use of those funds."

We heard loud and clear from students... that they did not want Proctor to become another Ross or Atwater.
—Susan Personette

Personette explained that in addition to budget concerns, planners are trying to determine exactly how many dining facilities the College needs in the long run — and where to place them.

The Strategic Plan approved by trustees last May identifies the construction of dining facilities for each Commons as a secondary priority, behind the completion of modern dormitories for Cook, Brainerd and Wonnacott Commons. The same plan, however, does not anticipate that these facilities will be finished before 2015, pushing the dining hall objective far into the future.

"A complete renovation would cost $20 million or more, at which point we need to talk instead about a brand new dining hall as a better long-term investment," said Personette. "Given the priorities of the Strategic Plan, however, there will not be funding for new dining halls for a number of years. Hence, our dilemma about Proctor."

Personette and others stressed that whatever final decision is reached regarding Proctor, planners hope to accomplish the needed updates — including improvements to the aging kitchen and bringing the structure into compliance with building codes — without impacting the building's unique atmosphere.

"We place a very high priority on student opinion about Proctor's future," Personette explained. "Input from students forms the basis of the written program that will guide the final design of the renovation. The ultimate goal is to update and modernize the physical facilities while retaining what is most cherished about Proctor."

Personette said that although she could not confidently predict what course of action the College would take a year from now, the design team hoped to incorporate this input into the final product.

Marie Horbar

Proctor Dining Hall's fate will not be decided until 2008, giving the College more time to debate whether to move ahead with temporary renovations or build a new facility in its place.

"We heard loud and clear from the students who attended the programming sessions that they did not want Proctor to become another Ross or Atwater," she explained. "After exploring that notion with them, we started to define the new facility as a sort of "Vermont vernacular" design that was warm, comfortable and homey, with a strong emphasis on being able to assemble one's own meal from fresh ingredients."

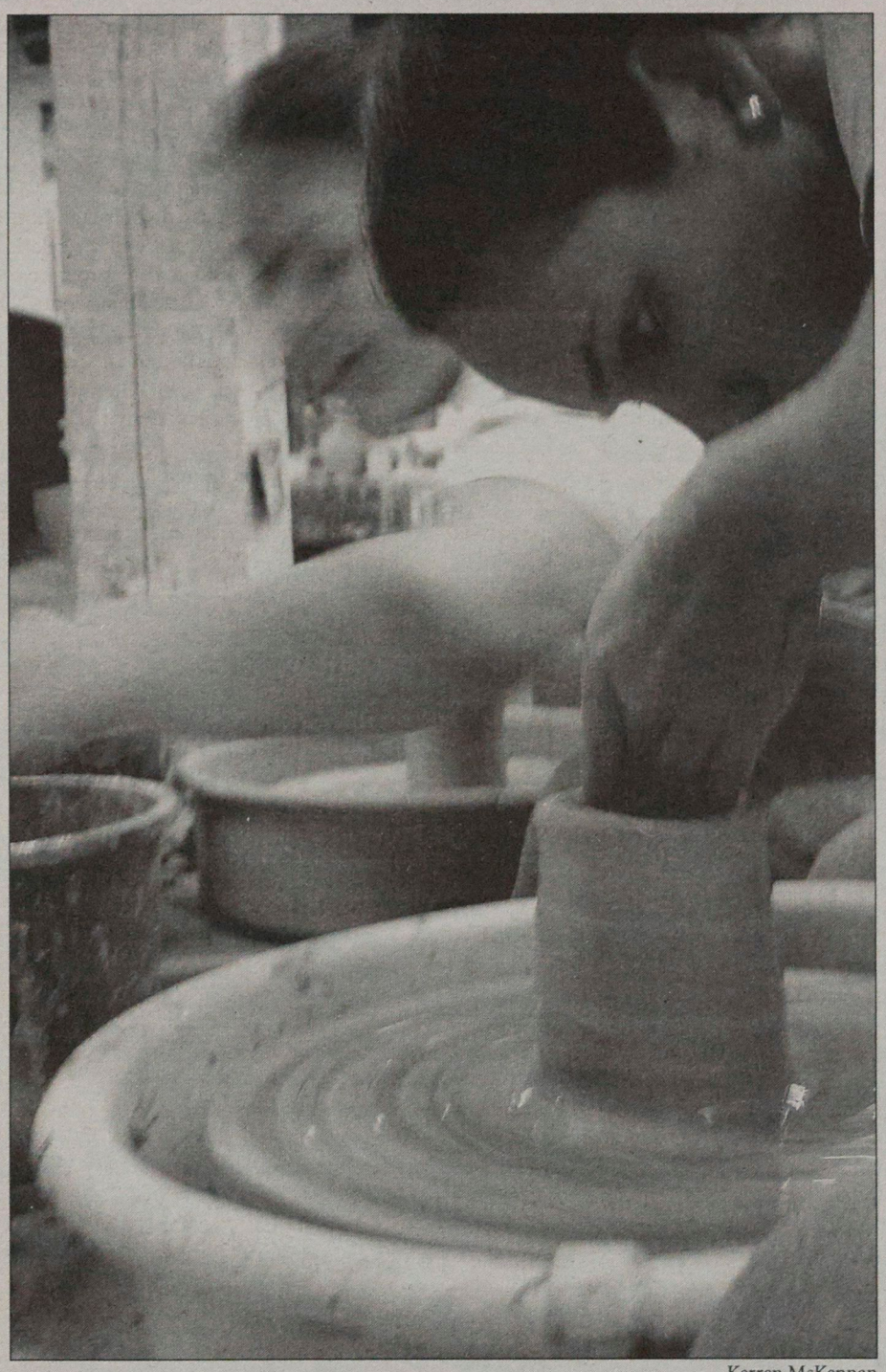
Students seemed unsurprised by news of the delay, stressing the controversial nature of the debate surrounding Proctor.

"Obviously they're delaying it cause they think it's kind of a big deal for people," said Nick Ballen '09. "But there's nothing wrong with that if they need more time to decide. In a way, it does show that they are listening to the students and want to take student input into consideration."

Fellow sophomore David Meschke agreed.

"It seems like the College is trying to delay a decision on a potentially hotly debated topic," he said. "But if they do take the necessary time to consult with students on the topic and not base the decision only on financial considerations, then the one-year delay is a wise move."

The Path to Frog Hollow



Kerren McKennan

Breaking from the traditional patter of Winter Term classes, students learn the art of pottery at the Frog Hollow Craft School. One group makes the short walk into town four times a week for Professor of Mathematics David Dorman's hands-on ceramics class, "Trial by Fire," in which students experiment with the pottery wheel and firing on a kiln.

Professors adopt stance on Wikipedia

Continued from page 1

citation," the motion reads, "even though it may lead one to a citable source."

The popularity of online research tools has grown rapidly in recent years. Like most successful Internet ventures, Wikipedia relies on the greater online community for its existence and support.

The Web site employs software that allows multiple individuals to edit the same text, much like the strategy used to develop open-source programming code. A typical encyclopedia entry begins with a brief skeletal outline of a topic, provided by Wikipedia itself. Users then contribute additional information to the entry, which is subject to further updates by other so-called "Wikipedians."

"Wikipedia is constantly being adapted and shaped and cut by people who are weighing in on what they know about a topic," said Assistant Professor of History Amy Morsman. "It's very democratic, and it's very dangerous in that way."

Because of the communal and largely anonymous nature of the Internet, however, scholars have brought into question the strength of Wikipedia's authority from its beginning in 2001.

There currently exists no effective method for definitively authenticating contributors' credentials. Moreover, the site's governing organization lacks the time and personnel to independently verify all of the information contained in its 6.5 million entries.

The encyclopedia instead depends on Wikipedians to correct inaccurate articles, crosscheck them with external sources and police the site for instances of vandalism or deliberate attempts at misinformation.

While one entry about Wikipedia itself assures users that articles "are, in general, reasonably sound," the level of quality control from one entry to another can vary greatly. The College's History Department has therefore retained serious misgivings about the encyclopedia's reliability as a whole.

In evaluating Wikipedia's foundational philosophy, Waters found it unsuitable for academic study. "It's really a product of the way the information is compiled," he said. "The articles can improve over time, but there's always an [emphasis on] change rather than something finalized."

The department's new policy on Wikipedia will be formally brought into full effect this coming spring. Professors will include the statement's language in course syllabi and in the instructions for senior theses. Some especially concerned teachers, such as Waters, pledged to drive home the message early and personally.

"To me, it was a sort of self-evident issue, and then I realized this wasn't the case," he said. "I'll be talking about it in the first week of classes so there isn't any doubt or confusion about the whole thing."

Though Waters's resolution did not outline punitive measures for violations of the new code, Morsman emphasized that students using Wikipedia did so at their own risk.

"If you find information on Wikipedia," she said, "and you use it on a test and the information is wrong, it's your problem, not ours."

Student reactions to the department's resolution were generally positive, though some seemed to consider the statement as redundant.

"Wikipedia's not a citable source," said Peter Prial '09. "I knew that in high school."

According to Eliza Murray '08, the burden rests with students themselves to learn the difference between credible and non-credible sources. "There are so many other, more legitimate sources to cite," she said. "Why would you cite Wikipedia?"

Morsman urged those alarmed with the move to regard the department's motion as a learning opportunity rather than simply more red tape.

"Go to the source," she said, referring to the list of suggested texts often found at the end of Wikipedia entries. "Take down that title and trot over to the library and check it out yourself, because we know there's a good vetting process that goes into producing a book."

college shorts

by Lisa Zaval, Copy Editor

Faculty, students voice protest to Bush library

Plans to build a George W. Bush presidential library at Southern Methodist University (SMU) have been met by opposition from students and professors critical of the Bush administration. According to the *Associated Press*, some faculty members are protesting the library's construction, citing disagreements with Bush's policies concerning foreign policy, civil liberties and education. Professors in opposition to Bush's foreign policy fear that in building the library, SMU will be celebrating a president who unnecessarily took the country to war, while others fear that the school could become a target for terrorists.

SMU President R. Gerald Turner said that only a minority of faculty members are opposed to the Bush library, and that plans will not be derailed. The majority of students and alumni support the project and hope it will bring increased value and prestige to the university. The library will be funded by a private drive aimed at raising $200 million.

The Bush administration has deep connections to SMU. Alumni include First Lady Laura Bush, Presidential adviser Karen Hughes and former White House counsel Harriet Miers. Vice President Dick Cheney previously served on the board of trustees.

—CNN.com

CU president to step down after battling scandals

President of the University of Colorado Hank Brown, who helped restore the school's image after a series of controversies, announced his resignation on Thursday. He plans to leave the post on Feb. 1, 2008, just 30 months after taking over the position, as reported by *The Associated Press*. Brown says that by the time he leaves office, all of the reforms and reorganizations he wanted to implement will be in place or well on their way.

Brown took over leadership at the university in June 2005 after a series of embarrassing scandals devastated the school, including sexual assault in the football program and a professor who likened some Sept. 11 victims to Nazis.

Brown was brought in as president on a temporary basis, but was then hired to the position permanently. Among many reforms, Brown banned the use of state money to buy alcohol for CU functions and formed a commission to improve ethnic diversity among the university's students.

Brown said that he hopes to teach political science at CU after he leaves office.

—CNN.com and *Denver Business Journal*

Design professor claims gender discrimination

A design professor who accused Harvard University of gender discrimination has withdrawn her resignation but said Thursday that the school's landscape architecture department remains a bastion of sexism, as reported by the *Associated Press*. Martha Schwartz, 56, complained that the department has never had a tenured female professor in its 106 years of existence.

Schwartz, who submitted her letter of resignation on Friday, said that the president, the dean of the Graduate School of Design and other fellow faculty members persuaded her to change her mind. The dean said all three senior appointments he has made since taking over in 2004 have been women.

Schwartz said that she joined the faculty at the same time as two of the tenured male professors. She said that tenure would be largely symbolic for her and other women.

The landscape architecture department has six tenured professors and 11 non-visiting adjunct faculty members, four of whom are women. Roughly 70 percent of the program's students are women.

—Boston.com and *CNN.com*

Wireless Hot-Spot a Hot Issue

Ilhan Kim

Leading the discussion over campus-wide wireless Internet, Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson and Student Co-Chair Annie Williams preside over the Jan. 22 meeting of Community Council. In addition to discussing campus-wide wireless Internet service, a top priority of the Strategic Plan, the committee unanimously voted to uphold its recommendation for the locking of Atwater Dining Hall on a temporary basis but split its vote regarding a recommendation for the installation of cameras in Proctor Dining Hall. The Council's debate over security measures stems from the recent arrest of Steven Browne, a Shoreham, Vt. resident, who was cited for allegedly cashing checks stolen from the mail center in McCullough Student Center.

Summit confronts global climate issues

Continued from page 1

and environmentally responsible.

A second panel discussion included representatives from Native Energy, which invests in alternative energy sources, and Bright Planet. A Middlebury start-up, Bright Planet plans to introduce a bank rewards program that will work much the same way an airline credit card does — except instead of the user getting airline miles, the bank will invest a small amount of every purchase in clean-energy projects.

People from all walks of life are agreeing that [climate change is a definitive issue. In the education group, we talked about ways to implement climate issues into the classroom.

—Hannah McHardy

On Saturday afternoon, students met in smaller groups to discuss specific efforts to combat carbon emissions and global warming.

Andrew Karp, a first-year at Bates College, attended a group that discussed green building techniques, including the widely accepted Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system used by the United States Green Building council.

"It's interesting how important the green building movement is," said Karp. "One example is the attention that these buildings get just because they have a plaque on them saying that they are built to LEED standards. I've heard stories of students visiting colleges who see the plaque on a building, and are impressed so much that they decide to apply."

Hannah McHardy, a first-year student at tiny Sterling College in Craftsbury, Vt., attended a discussion on education.

"People from all walks of life are agreeing that [climate change] is a definitive issue," McHardy said. "In the education group, we talked about ways to implement climate issues into the classroom."

The climate summit brought together students who were all united in their efforts to promote climate change awareness, but who came from different colleges with different levels of environmental activism. This collaborative effort was one of the most beneficial aspects of the summit, said SNG member Sierra Murdoch '09.

To help students from colleges with less environmental activism, the summit included a one-hour session on Saturday evening that provided tips and advice on how to gain student support on college campuses.

On Sunday, the group made the first steps toward larger goals. It discussed ways to make the carbon neutrality issue important not only to college students, but to society in general. It also drafted a rough statement taking a stance on the climate neutrality issue, which SNG hopes to use as a way to expand the movement.

Asked what she considered the most beneficial part of the weekend, Gaia Oyarzun, a first-year at Smith College, said, "It made me see how we can actually come together and change things. There are honestly a lot of people who I met that are committed to raising awareness of the climate change problem."

Begun by student activists in January 2005, SNG promotes the awareness of environmental issues both on campus and in the Middlebury community. This weekend's summit was part of the group's current effort to make the College carbon neutral — essentially reducing the total amount of harmful carbon emissions to zero.

public safety log

January 5-18, 2007

DATE	TIME	INCIDENT	CATEGORY	LOCATION	DISPOSITION
1/5/2007	10:59 a.m.	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Side mirror broken off	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/4/2007	3:00 p.m.	Theft	Cash from wallet	Fitness Center	Open
1/5/2007	11:30 a.m.	Vandalism (Vehicle)	Side mirror broken off	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/6/2007	6:00 p.m.	Theft	Shoulder bag	Proctor	Referred to MPD
1/6/2007	12:08 a.m.	Vandalism	5 minute parking sign	Carr Hall	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	9:33 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	10:03 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	10:03 a.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	12:01 p.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	2:00 p.m.	Theft (From Vehicle)	iPod	D Lot	Referred to MPD
1/7/2007	1:30 a.m.	Vandalism (Structure)	Glass Door	Hepburn	Referred to Commons Dean
1/8/2007	3:00 p.m.	Theft	Microphones / Amplifiers / Connector Cables	Proctor	Open
1/11/2007	9:28 p.m.	Drug Violation	Marijuana	Le Chateau	Referred to Commons Dean
1/12/2007	10:25 p.m.	Unlawful Trespass	Campus Grounds MPD/Narcotics	C Lot	Referred to MPD
1/14/2007	3:24 p.m.	Theft	—	Milliken	Open
1/15/2007	10:30 a.m.	Vandalism (Structure)	Window	The Mill	Referred to Commons Dean
1/18/2007	11:00 a.m.	Theft	Camera	Memorial Field House	Referred to MPD

The Department of Public Safety reported giving 37 alcohol citations between Jan. 4 and Jan. 18.

Courting Clinton: A 'coup' for the College

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cause they did not want him, but because they thought he was out of their reach.

"He was mentioned," said Sarah Shaikh '07.5, one of two students sitting on the Honorary Degree Committee. "But we knew he had a huge speaker fee and we did not think we had any direct connections."

"They put a strong emphasis on us finding someone who was connected to the College community," said ReNard Rogers '07, the other student on the Committee, referring to the guidelines they were given by College administrators. Completely unknown to the students on the Committee, while they drafted a list of potential commencement speakers, the Board of Trustees had their own speaker in mind.

The process of recruiting a 2006 commencement had been a rough one. None of the students or administrators with knowledge of last year's search would comment openly about what went wrong, but several confirmed that the College had held out too long to get an answer from its first choice: a certain celebrity fake news anchor with a *show* that airs *daily*. By the time the negotiations were fully exhausted, the clock was running out, which led to the late selection of Former Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman to address the class of 2006 — a choice that faced loud criticism from students and faculty.

So for 2007, the Board of Trustees decided to start early and think big. Bill Clinton was the name proposed, and unlikely as it seemed, the Board committed to recruiting the 42nd president. To leave time in case Clinton declined the offer, Liebowitz said there was a mid-December deadline to the effort.

Of course this all leads up to the one rumor that has yet to be disproved — that one of Middlebury's trustees called a casual golf match with the former President, told some charming stories about Middlebury students in Vermont and Clinton was persuaded to grant Middlebury a free commencement address.

Those involved said it was more complicated than just one meeting, but every College administrator contacted for this article declined to reveal the College trustee (or trustees) who met with Clinton, and where or when they may have discussed the idea. The one aspect of the discussions that is known is Middlebury's connection to Clinton, a connection that the Honorary Degree Committee did not know about: Andrew Friendly '91.

After skiing down the Snow Bowl at his February graduation in 1991, Friendly had driven to New Hampshire where he began working on the Clinton campaign. When the Arkansas governor won the Presidency, Friendly became Clinton's personal aide. He later worked as Clinton's trip director — he recalls only one trip to Vermont for a national governors' meeting in Burlington — before he finally switched over to working on Latin American policy.

Friendly was not the major player in recruiting Clinton, as he told *The Campus* he was only "tangentially involved," but he contacted people in the President's office and lobbied those he knew to secure the commitment as the effort reached its self-imposed deadline just before the winter break.

The campus reaction

Students on the Honorary Degree Committee said that they did not know Clinton had been selected until just days before news broke to the entire campus.

"I was stunned," said Rogers. "At first we were really against having a politician speak because it divides people, but there's something about having a President, having an international figure, that's different."

The Committee had been shying away from politicians, in favor of several well-known humanitarians who topped their shortlists. But Shaikh noted that, in many ways, Clinton has become more of a humanitarian than a politician in his post-presidency, making him fit well with what they were seeking in a commencement speaker.

"The Committee was very, very elated when they got the news," said Emerson. "That was unanimous."

Likewise, students across campus were also, at least nearly unanimously, elated. The most common complaints were from those not graduating this year — juniors afraid they would never find something comparable for their commencement, and recent alumni who joked they graduated a year or two too early.

But in an open letter to the Board of Trustees, one member of the College community openly criticized Clinton's selection. Jim Cowperthwait, a '94 and '97 Middlebury parent and former head of the Middlebury College Parents' Fund, wrote in his letter that the choice to invite Clinton and grant him an honorary degree sent the wrong message about the College to students and the world.

"If celebrity is the key to memorability, then President Clinton is a good choice," wrote Jim Cowperthwait, who admitted that he could not remember either of his children's commencement speakers, in an e-mail to *The Campus*. "My criteria would be somewhat different, and they would preclude inviting and honoring a perjurer and an impeached politician."

Several days before news of Clinton's commitment became public, Liebowitz acknowledged that there could be some dissatisfaction with the choice, but everyone involved in the selection said the opportunity was too good to pass up, and pointed to the successes of the Clinton presidency and his work since.

"I think you need to take the President as a whole," said Friendly. "Certainly people will judge him for those mistakes, but he's also dedicated himself to making the world a better place."

Johnson, who described her political views as "very moderate," said she supported the choice of Clinton just as she supported the choice of Giuliani two years ago.

"This is not the first time that people have complained about a [commencement] speaker," said Johnson. "But they're not looking at all that the person has done."

But Cowperthwait wrote that he would no longer actively support the College.

"I won't be contributing to Middlebury any more," wrote Cowperthwait. "I think Middlebury is one of the best colleges in America. But I have to conclude that Middlebury no longer stands for what I believe in."

Shaikh said that students had lived the Clinton presidency and saw him beyond his mistakes.

"We all grew up with the news media coverage of Clinton and Monica Lewinsky," said Shaikh. "Most people have moved past that. Students are really excited about [Clinton] and that's the most important thing.

Sam Miller

A 'coup' for the College

In the short run, Clinton's visit means Commencement planners have a lot of work to do and, perhaps, revisions to consider for the College's traditional commencement format. A visit by a former American President presents the dual challenges of meeting the security protocols mandated by the Secret Service, while managing unusually high interest and a large turnout by members of the greater College community.

"The visit by Chief Justice Roberts last October gives us some experience in dealing with federal security officers," said Emerson.

The College has yet to begin discussing protocols with Clinton's office or the Secret Service, but Emerson said the administration was in the process of researching and collecting input from other colleges and universities that have hosted U.S. Presidents.

"One of our highest priorities is to make the event as nice as possible for all of our graduating seniors and their guests," said Emerson. "My guess is that something we're going to have to do differently from years past is have controlled access through tickets."

Since the College began holding commencement ceremonies outdoor rain or shine there has not been a cap on the number of guests that graduating seniors could invite.

"I think it will be a pretty generous limit," said Emerson. "We want to be able to accommodate as many people as we can. That's our biggest priority: to assure that the notoriety of President Clinton doesn't detract from the day."

In the long run, Clinton's visit — which Middlebury historians David Bain and David Stameshkin both believe will be the first ever visit by a U.S. President to the campus — could go a long way in expanding the College's international prominence.

"It's a coup for Middlebury," said Friendly. "What it really will do is raise Middlebury's profile."

Johnson noted that the publicity also raises the name recognition of the College. After news of Clinton's commitment was first reported in *The Campus* on Jan. 10, the story was soon running on Vermont. national and international news media.

But beyond raising the College's profile, members of the Class of 2007 and their guests will be among less than a dozen commencement audiences to have been addressed by the 42nd president since he left office over six years ago. And, at least for a while, they could be among the last.

"Now with his wife running for president, he probably won't do many more," said Friendly, just after Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY) announced her candidacy for 2008 over the weekend. Friendly noted that during the campaign, commencement addresses by former President Clinton could be considered political speeches for his wife.

So far Clinton has made only two other speaking commitments for 2007 commencement ceremonies, one at the University of Michigan on April 28, and the other at Knox College in Illinois, on June 2.

What he might say

The big question now — one that may only be answered in May — is just what President Clinton will say to graduating seniors. If his past addresses provide any indication, the speech will be closely tailored to the experiences of Middlebury graduates, and to the challenges they face on their commencement.

Speaking at the American University in Dubai in 2002, Clinton emphasized the immediate importance of peace in the Middle East, and between India and Pakistan. Speaking at Tougaloo College in 2003, Clinton challenged graduates to defeat poverty, ignorance, discrimination and hatred through service to one another. And speaking just last year to graduates at Tulane University, the former President recognized the struggles of rebuilding in the wake of Hurricaine Katrina and other tragedies around the world.

While Middlebury may not have such a clear, defining political event at its core, those who know Clinton, and those who know Middlebury, all suggested his remarks would focus on one big idea: being responsible leaders in a global community.

"Middlebury's focus is on global issues and challenges, and that's Clinton's claim to fame — being an international ambassador," said Johnson. She said she expected the former President to talk about "the importance of being a global thinker and a global doer, looking at problems and solutions without boundaries."

If Clinton does choose to discuss the global community, his 2003 address to Syracuse University graduates may provide the best indication of what he could say. The address, humbly titled "Why America Needs the World," was a mix of policy advocacy and personal reflection. In the speech, Clinton called for Americans to build partnerships between people and nations addressing common challenges.

"I think America should be just as determined to lead the world against the threat of infectious diseases, the threat of poverty and ignorance, the threat of global warming, as we are about leading the world against the threat of terrorism," Clinton told Syracuse graduates.

He closed by noting that throughout history, those who built together had succeeded.

"Every single time, since people first rose out of the African savannah a hundred thousand years ago, when it came down to it, the builders have prevailed," said Clinton. "The people who believed in our interdependence have prevailed, the people who believed in our common humanity have prevailed. I want you to use your education to make sure that in the 21st century, we prevail."

Spoiler Alert: An old Clinton joke

While each of the commencement addresses Clinton has delivered in his post-Presidency has been tailored to the experiences of the students he has addressed, the history of their institution and the nature of current events that morning, one anecdote seems to works it way into a number of the former President's graduation remarks — the story of his own commencement.

As Clinton told the story to Syracuse University in 2003 (just before sharing it with graduates at Tougaloo and then later Milton Academy) he still remembers his own commencement address — and he remembers it verbatim.

Graduating from Georgetown University where, like Middlebury, commencements were held outside rain or shine, Clinton's commencement speaker in 1968 was then Mayor of Washington, D.C., Walter Washington.

According to Clinton, as Washington rose to address the graduates and their families, a large, threatening storm cloud passed overhead. "It was huge and the rumbling shook the ground," Clinton told Tougaloo graduates.

Washington looked up at the sky and, according to Clinton, delivered his address in three short sentences:

"Ladies and Gentlemen, if we don't get out of here, we're all going to drown. I will send you a printed copy of my remarks. Good luck, and God bless you."

Noting that commencement speakers are all that stand between seniors and their diplomas, Clinton told Milton Academy graduates that the brevity of Washington's speech made him a popular man.

So popular, Clinton joked, that his class "would have voted for Mayor Washington for president that day."

Abrupt company layoff leaves 175 jobless

By Dina Magaril
Local News Editor

The Vermont based Specialty Filaments Inc. (SFI), a manufacturing company specializing in synthetic monofilament design, closed its doors to over 175 workers on Jan. 11 when it filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy. Bill Haynes, the company spokesperson, cited a combination of outstanding debt and an inability to compete with cheaper labor overseas as the two main reasons for the company's failure.

Most workers employed by SFI, which is owned by the Boston firm Capital Resource Partners, were not aware of the company's financial troubles, and were surprised by the sudden closing of the company's factories, which include two facilities in Middlebury and offices in Burlington.

"They told us [we were closing] right before it happened. We got no warning," said Bill Whitney, who had worked for the company for ten years as well as the union leader for Unite Here Local 2524. Though Whitney was aware that "the company had been struggling," and even sat in on some of the negotiations taking place within SFI, none of the workers were prepared to hear the news that the company was filing for bankruptcy.

"This came as a surprise to everybody," said Haynes. "The company was doing its best to try to compete for several years and finding it increasingly difficult to do so."

Haynes said that the company had been negotiating with its senior lender, Wells Fargo, for weeks before the decision was made to close indefinitely. "The surprise came when our lender said we defaulted on the loan, meaning that the company was forced to declare bankruptcy," Haynes explained.

SFI first suspended operations on Jan. 5 to discuss the company's future. "During the break [SFI] and the bank were trying to negotiate and come to an agreement and figure out what would be the best way to move forward," said Haynes. Unfortunately for the company's workers, moving forward involved getting laid off without severance pay.

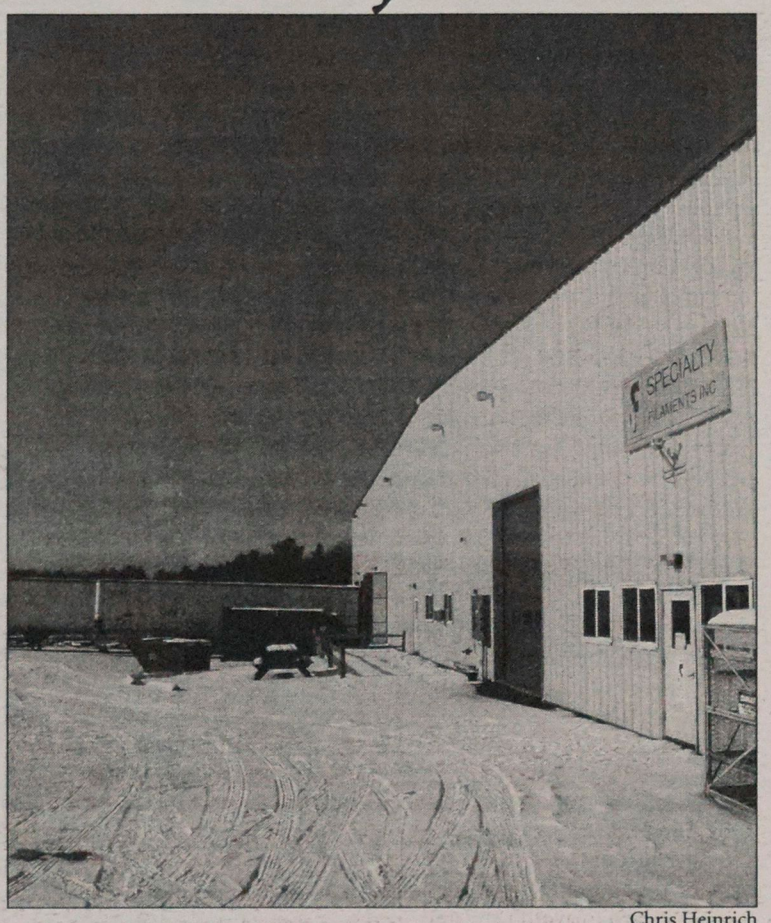
"We got nothing," said Whitney. "They cancelled every benefit, one thing they couldn't cancel were our pensions, which are guaranteed by the federal government." The lack of any worker's compensation was a particularly tough blow for Whitney, who has four boys with his wife Sarah, the owner of a day care center who relied on the insurance provided by her husband's job.

Haynes described the company's closing as a nationally relevent issue, saying, "In some sense, this is really a national story in that a lot of manufacturing companies in the U.S. are struggling because of overseas competition," he said. While the company's debt was a contributing factor to the closing, Haynes said a bigger problem was the availability of cheap labor overseas, where "products are being made for much less money in countries like China."

When asked if there was any chance the company might be bought up and reopened, Haynes was hopeful but not convinced. "There is that hope that the company could be sold in the future," he said, "It's possible, but maybe not probable."

In light of the company's closing, laid off workers were invited to attend a job fair on Jan. 18 held at the Middlebury American Legion headquarters on Boardman Street. Katie Johnson, the business manager for Addison County's solid waste management district — a transfer station responsible for the management of Middlebury's recycling programs — was one of the companies that held a booth at the fair. Though the fair was open to all persons looking for employment, Johnson said it was obvious that the event was thrown together on short notice, mainly to assist those workers laid off from SFI.

"We heard about it, made some phone calls and got involved," said Johnson. Though Johnson said her company didn't have too many job openings, it is in the process for interviewing for a new scale operator. "As an employer, it was really hard to see that," said Johnson, referring to the estimated 120 employees from SFI that she saw wandering around the job fair. "A lot of folks worked there for 20 or 30 years, they worked a lifetime," she said.



Chris Heinrich
Specialty Filaments threw in the towel on Jan. 11, laying off 175 workers.

Whitney was one of the hopeful attendees, saying he filled out some applications but that "nothing is definite yet." Johnson described the job fair as filled with an "air of optimism," but perhaps for the wrong reasons. "I think some of the workers [that were laid off] are hopeful that the company will be bought up by a new owner and reopened," said Johnson. "But they're not going to just sit around and wait for that to happen," she said.

Good samaritans awarded medals for altruism

Courtesy
Donning their medals, local citizens pose with President Leibowitz at a ceremony honoring their volunteerism.

By Tamara Hilmes
Local News Editor

The Middlebury community recognized some of its most avid contributors on January 9, when President Liebowitz awarded medals to four devoted Addison County volunteers. The ceremony, which is held annually, began at the College during the Bicentennial, and recognizes citizens who have helped to strengthen the Addison County community. This year's recipients included Christine and Michael Steier, for their service at the Open Door Clinic, Fletcher Brush, for his role in the creation of a local sports center and Lucien Paquette, founder of the Addison County Fair and Field days.

Before moving to Vermont in 2003, Michael, a retired cardiac and thoracic surgeon and Christine, an emergency nurse, worked and volunteered in Florida for a couple of years. During that time, the two worked for the Salvation Army in Ft. Myers and volunteered for the Red Cross. The Steiers split their time between volunteering at food pantries and soup kitchens and hosting a clinic at the local Hispanic counseling center once a week. The Steiers have traveled around the world, helping communities in Africa, Russia, Mexico and Nepal. Today, they devote their time to local efforts in the Middlebury community.

"My husband and I have been volunteering for years and years," said Christine. "We just decided that this was what we wanted to do."

The Steiers have devoted themselves to providing healthcare for the citizens of Addison County, volunteering at the Open Door Clinic, of which Christine was named director in 2005. The clinic provides healthcare to people in need of better coverage, as well as to those who lack any type of health insurance. Michael has volunteered as a physician at the clinic for the past three years and became its medical director in 2005.

"We pretty much do everything that you would get at a normal doctor's office," said Christine.

According to Christine, the clinic provides primary medical care and physical therapy, handles referrals and arranges surgeries.

Despite the Steiers hard work, the two never expected to be publicly recognized for their contributions.

"My husband and I found out that we had won the award in December, when we received a letter," Christine said. "We'd been told that we were nominated, but we were still very surprised when we found out that we had won."

However, medical volunteer work was not the only service recognized this year. Fletcher Brush, a Customer Relations Manager for Co-operative Insurance Companies, incorporates his "love of the game" into his volunteer work. Brush spent a number of years building the foundation for the Memorial Sports Center, located at 296 Buttolph Dr. in Middlebury. "When I was growing up, we didn't have the facilities to play hockey, so we played basketball instead," Brush explained. "Over the years I sensed a need for an all-purpose facility, so we kept working and fundraising to meet this goal."

The sports center has benefited the younger citizens of the Middlebury community, hosting various sports games throughout the years. "The kids from the high school are always walking over," said Brush. "In winter, the center serves young skaters and one of the most thrilling things that it has produced is women's ice hockey. There is now a women's ice hockey team at the high school. Before the facility was built, we didn't have that."

Aside from his enthusiasm for sports, Brush is a member of the Addison County Chamber of Commerce, the Middlebury Rotary Club and the Middlebury Community House, among others. His membership at the Salisbury Historical Society and Village Cemetery Restoration Project prompted him to start his own website, UnderBrush.org, devoted to raising money for the Vermont Old Cemetery Association.

"I spent a few years trying to track down where my great-great-great grandparents were buried, because I knew that it was somewhere in Addison County," Brush said. "I had trouble finding the records, and I though that if I'm having this many challenges, then a lot of other people probably are too." In order to benefit other researchers, Brush and his nephew, a web-design expert, launched a website to aid people in tracing their ancestry. "It's really just a hobby, but it's what I will be working on once I reach my golden years," joked Brush.

His own ancestry is responsible for Brush's altruism, a value he knows well from childhood. "I've done what I've done because of my parents," Brush confessed. "They had given a lot to the community, and they expected their children to help give back."

Lucien Paquette, an active member of the Middlebury community since 1948, when he founded the Addison County Fair and Field days, was unavailable for comment. Over the years, he has continued to oversee the fair and has been an enthusiastic supporter of fundraising activities at St. Mary's school.

Aside from receiving a medal and a banquet in their honor, the award recipients' causes benefited from their new-found fame.

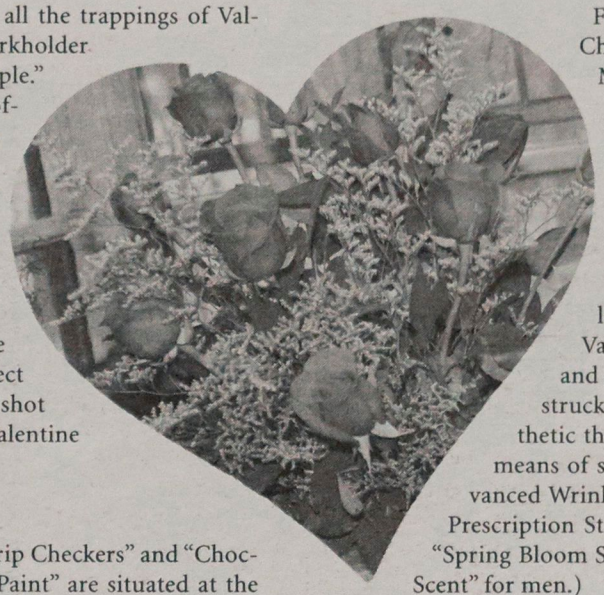
"Winning this award has really helped the Clinic," Christine noted. "Community members have been coming out of the woodwork to offer us help. I was also surprised by the large picture in the newspaper, which gave us a lot of free advertising. I would just like to give a big thanks to the college for this award. It has helped us so much."

Cupid's arrow hits the mark in downtown Midd

The Campus scopes out the goods for your V-day date, so you don't have to

Blossom Basket owner Sandy Burkholder is enamored with all the trappings of Valentine's Day. "It's an old, old, old tradition that just lives on," Burkholder said. "It's a time of love, sharing and people thinking of other people." Fortunately for retailers like Burkholder, that warm sentiment is often reinforced with cold, hard cash. "It's a busy time," Burkholder smiled. "The shop is nuts. We have lines out the door."

According to The Society of American Florists, Valentine's Day is the number one floral market holiday. In 2005, consumers purchased an estimated 180 million roses in preparation for the glory day of all that is pink and sappy. While Blossom Basket's Jack Burkholder insists that "one hundred premium long-stemmed roses" is simply the only way to go, what about those seeking a more creative (and less expensive!) way to woo the object of their affection and avoid being smited by Cupid? *The Campus* shot an arrow into the heart of some sure bets certain to make your Valentine swoon.



Rainbow Room

Since Rainbow Room has not yet received its shipment of "Strip Checkers" and "Chocolate Boyfriends," flashy jars of "Tom & Sally's Chocolate Body Paint" are situated at the forefront of its Valentine's Day marketing scheme. The paint comes equipped with a dainty wooden brush and simple instructions: "Heat to 98.6°, apply liberally and let your imagination run free …" What if your love melts away before the jar's eight servings of chocolate do? It's "great on ice cream, too," the label assures its potential buyers.

Ben Franklin

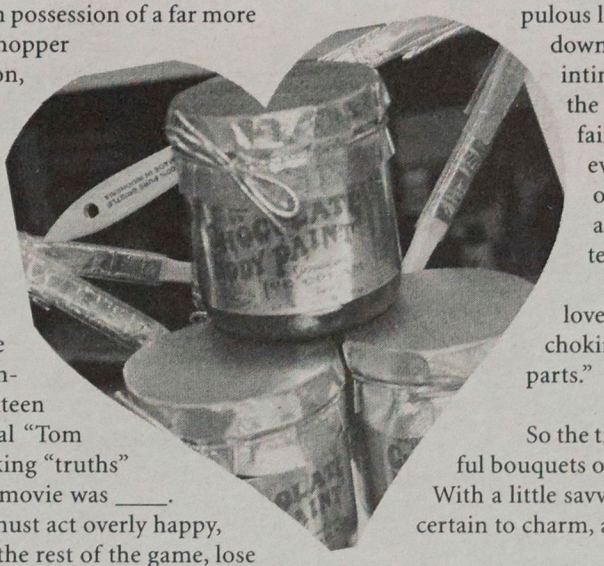
With heart doilies, cookie cutters and stickers galore, Ben Franklin's stock is reminiscent of more innocent Valentine's Days gone by, the ones where every buoyant second-grader in the class would be the proud recipient of a "Twisted Wild Whiskers" mini Valentine card to avoid tears and angry parental phone calls. If wildlife isn't your taste, Ben Franklin still has you covered with Barbie, "Pirates of the Carribean," Tweety, Hello Kitty, "Cars," Disney Princesses, Strawberry Shortcake and virtually every other children's character fathomable. Should you manage to tear yourself away from the candy rack (which contains a bizarre, slightly less-than-romantic chocolate Valentine shaped like a fish, adorned with images of worms and declaring "You're a Reel Catch!"), the exhilarating "toys downstairs" sign points to a realm of cuddly, heart-splattered stuffed animals by the makers of Beanie Babies — a pink giraffe named Blushed, a white dog known as Sweetly and a bear who calls himself Always, holding "a rose just for you, with love."

Kinney Drugs

Kinney Drugs boasts the quintessentially tacky smorgasbord of offbeat gifts which make Valentine's Day shopping so enjoyably peculiar. Beside the two-foot tall Valentine's Day cards dripping with glitter was a rack of "Prince Frogheart" stuffed animals with tags reading "squeeze me, I ribbit!" Crouching in the sea of frogs lies a lone, dejected stuffed bear. Unlike his froggy counterparts, he is nameless, and in possession of a far more ambiguous tag — "makes fun sound," it promises. What can a shopper do but squeeze him and see? Even after plentiful experimentation, however, it is still uncertain whether his characteristic utterance can best be described as "smooching" or "writhing in agony."

Those proceeding further down the aisle are confronted by a saxophone-clutching orangutan in sunglasses whose packaging beckons, "I sing and dance. Try me!" Shoppers daring enough to press the magical button are serenaded by a primate belting "How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You" … for a long, long time, much to thrill of fellow shoppers.

Around the next bend lurks a deck of cards labeled "Love Truth or Dare." Its package paints an edgy, risqué picture, emphasizing that this is a game for *adults* only; children under sixteen are decidedly prohibited. Hmm, promising. A product to rival "Tom & Sally's Chocolate Body Paint?" Not so much, given its shocking "truths" ("Kevin Costner's best movie was ____. Kevin Costner's worst movie was ____. Why?") and scandalous "dares" ("For the rest of the game you must act overly happy, loving, thoughtful and romantic. If you do not act this way for the rest of the game, lose 5 points.")



Further down the way lies the product for those for whom Christmas lights simply are not enough: 15 feet of "Valentine Mini Lights," suitable for both indoor and outdoor use. Unlike the flames of passion, "bulbs remain lit even if one burns out!" But, beware. The package warns that "handling the coated electrical wires of this product exposes you to lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm." Well, that sort of kills the mood.

If all this talk of lead poisoning and Kevin Costner leaves you feeling a little blue and you decide at once that Valentine's Day is simply a construct of confectioners, florists and greeting card companies meant to siphon dollars from love struck consumers and remind the lonely and lovelorn how pathetic they are, the health, beauty and cosmetics aisles offer ample means of self-sabotaging your Valentine's gift-giving: "NuVectin Advanced Wrinkle Therapy for Fine Lines & Deep Wrinkles," "Certain Dri Prescription Strength Anti-Perspirant" and "Extra Strength Rogaine" (in "Spring Bloom Soft Floral Scent" for women, and "Ocean Rush Cool Fresh Scent" for men.)

Sweet Cecily

Now that you've had your "down with Valentine's Day!" epiphany, it's time to bandage your wounds with "Boo Boo Kisses — Accoutrements for First Aid." The package of 15 lip-shaped, die-cut sterile strips (with an enigmatic "free toy inside!") is "perfect for cuts, scrapes, love-bites or other minor boo-boos."

If you still happen to be in the giving mood once your wounds are tended to, why not show your dog a little love with "My Doggy Paw of Approval," all-natural pet treats "tested in the MyDoggy kitchens and stamped with the paw of approval for their flavor and taste"?

Blue Moon

If, for all his tail-wagging and slobber, Sparky simply isn't cutting it as a Valentine, perhaps it's time to tread back onto the human market. But take it slowly. The "Casanova: The World's Greatest Lover" action figure is an ideal starting block.

The Barbie doll-esque box housing the smartly attired charmer boasts that Casanova — also known as Giovanni Giacomo — is "more than just a lover!" Indeed, he claims to have been a secretary, solider, preacher ("Casanova originally planned to be a man of the cloth, but was expelled from seminary school for scandalous conduct"), alchemist, gambler, violinist, spy, journalist, fugitive, author, traveler, diplomat, entrepreneur and librarian; nowadays, though, he keeps it simple and cites his occupation as "adventurer, author and lover." His "weapon of choice"? Why, seduction, of course.

Still not convinced that this self-described "promiscuous and unscrupulous lover" is your type? Flip over the box for a more explicit rundown. "Casanova's irresistible charm and casual good looks led to intimate relations with over 100 women." So he's been around the block. "His power of seduction was so strong that he had affairs with older women, younger women, married women and even a nun." Certainly, you have a chance! "Detailed accounts of each of his sexual encounters are recorded in his 12 volume autobiography, *The History of My Life*." Hmm, so he kisses and tells sometimes. Nothing to worry about, though, I'm sure.

Well, then again, perhaps there *is* one drawback. Our beloved Casanova's boasting is ironically marred by the obligatory choking hazard posted on the front of his box — "Warning: Small parts."

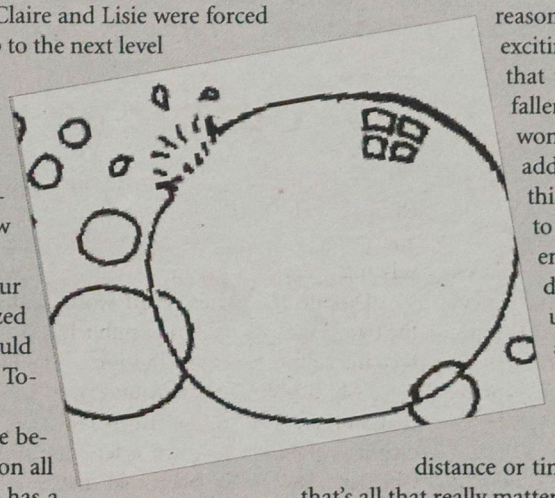
So the tiresomely cliché heart-shaped boxes of chocolate and bountiful bouquets of roses are not the sole remedies to Cupid's slings and arrows. With a little savvy, the lovesick Middlebury shopper is destined to snag a gift certain to charm, amuse and provoke a little laughter at romance's expense.

—Kelly Janis

beyondthebubble

green mountain adventures with claire and lisie
this week: cross-country skiing means spandex

Post the Big Bake of yore, the Massive Move of '07 occurred. Claire and Lisie were forced to relinquish their aptly spacious singles and take their relationship to the next level – that of roomies. Since sleeping, eating, and spending the majority of our waking hours together isn't enough, Lisie has also taken to forcing Claire to sit and chat with her whilst she is in the shower. Apparently normal relational boundaries have escaped us. But Claire continues to threaten to turn to duct tape to mark the division of sides. Perhaps this was in retaliation of Lisie's refusal to allow Claire to hang up her original African artwork on their walls.



As established, we spend too much time both together and in our room (more specifically, our beds). We thought it over and realized that maybe we should feel weird about that. We decided we should revel in that fresh Vermont air. So we went cross-country skiing. Together, obviously.

Getting all dressed up in our snow gear was exciting, and Lisie bemoans the fact that spandex is still not entirely socially acceptable on all occasions. In fact she might have to take up this sport just so she has a reason to don it more frequently. Going out on the "course" was even more exciting. We skied for approximately 37 minutes, and more than half of that was spent on the ground laughing at whoever happened to have fallen most recently. Usually it was Lisie as Claire is a superb outdoorswoman. Claire also happened to eavesdrop on Lisie talking to herself, addressing herself by her last name. As in, "Come on, Mehlman." In fact this has been happening more and more frequently, and Claire is eager to discuss it in the W.S. (wedding speech). The W.S. is an oft-referenced entity in the yet to be named double we share. Lisie already has a word document entitled "W.S." saved on her desktop, and it is also backed up on Tigercat. She didn't want to take any risks there. We also have serious guidelines outlining topics/jokes that can and cannot be included in the W.S. For instance, Claire's first Middlebury hook up – off limits. Lisie's hygiene – fair game.

While the skiing might not have provided Clair and Lisie much distance or time apart, they did get some cute pictures out of it. And, in the end, that's all that really matters anyway.

–Claire Nelson and Lisie Mehlman

The Middlebury Campus

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editorials

The staff editorials represent the official opinions of The Middlebury Campus as decided by The Campus Editorial Board.

Where does all the money go?

Last semester, the Student Government Association Finance Committee faced a daunting challenge. Late budget requests by student organizations and shortsighted funding decisions by last year's Finance Committee had created a major budget crisis. The Committee's solution was to slash student organizations' 2006-2007 budgets across the board and begin a serious reevaluation of the student organization budget request and finance system.

Now the Committee is looking to next year, and plans are being floated for sizable increases to the Student Activities Fee (SAF). While anyone with knowledge of the Finance Committee's budget could recognize the need for an increase to the SAF, the problem is that not very many students have *any* knowledge about how the money they give the Finance Committee is allocated. The Committee does not disclose how it allocates student money to campus organizations, nor does the Committee report the state of its own budget.

Students do not know how much of their money is spent by the Middlebury College Activities Board to book concerts or hold Pub Nights. Students do not know how much money special SGA initiatives drain from their pockets. And students do not know how much cash *The Campus* editors hand out to make newspapers each week.

We know the Finance Committee needs more money, but we also think it would be nice if *Campus* editorial positions came with company cars and personal assistants. Before students let the Finance Committee take more of their money, they should hold the Committee accountable to show them just how their money is spent.

The little college that could

Middlebury College is, admittedly, a small school, in a small town, in a small state. But Chief Justice John G. Roberts' visit last fall, and the commitment of former President Bill Clinton to visit this Spring, both prove that there is nothing small about the College's ever-growing international status.

And behind the scenes, these high-profile visits highlight something else: the many individuals beyond the bubble who work quietly but work hard on behalf of Middlebury. The Trustees and alumni directly involved in recruiting Clinton deserve a congratulations, and so do those Middlebury "ambassadors" around the world who build the good reputation of the College on the hill.

about the campus

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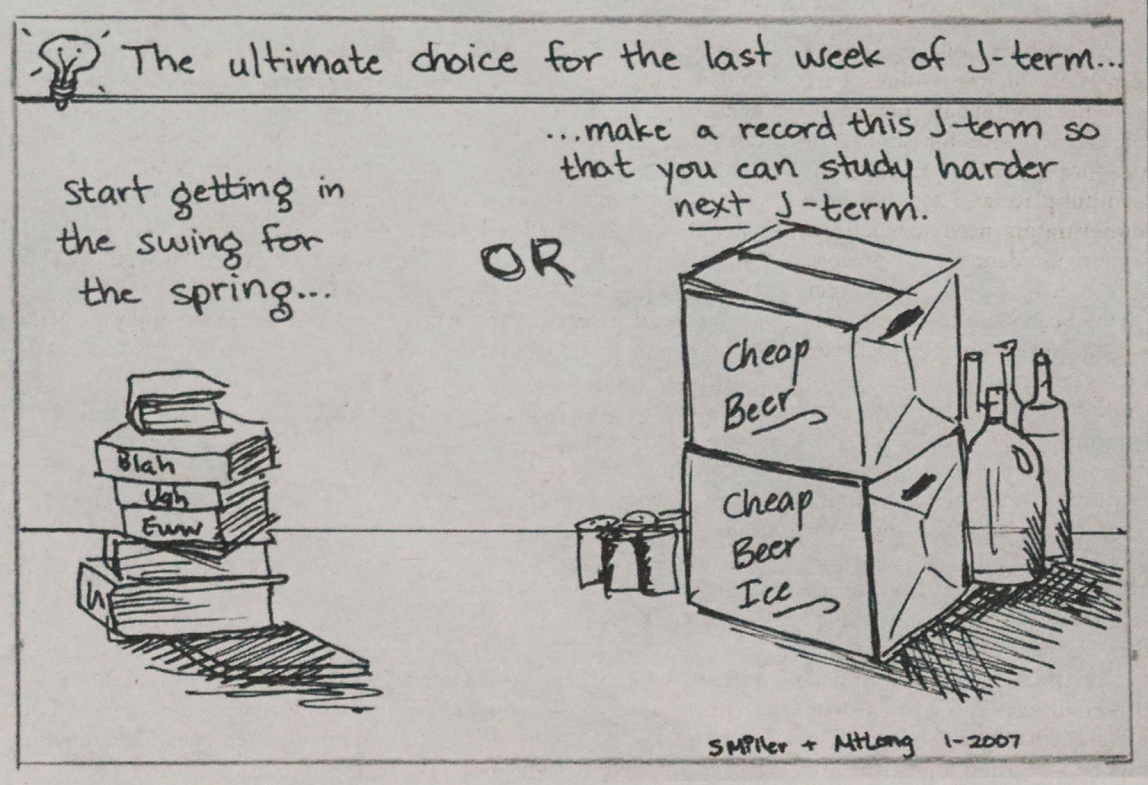

The ultimate choice for the last week of J-term...
Start getting in the swing for the spring...
Blah
Ugh
Euww
OR
...make a record this J-term so that you can study harder next J-term.
Cheap Beer
Cheap Beer Ice
SMiller + MLong 1-2007

Taylor Long and Sam Miller

letters to the editor

more Letters to the Editor on page 10

To the Editor:

As somebody who lives on the border of San Francisco's Castro District, I have had the good fortune to get to know many great Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Trans-gender, Queer people (GLBTQ). In addition to being good friends, they have also augmented my confidence in the fact that the mainstream queer community does not reflect the despicable views expressed by Kevin Moss. The GLBTQ people I've met in San Francisco know that respecting diversity extends to a respect for all ideologies — including "evil" conservative views like my own. My GLBTQ buddies also realize that our generation must deal with a lot of serious challenges in order for our country/planet to continue thriving. I can say with confidence that if they were at Middlebury, they would not waste their energy on a pathetic anti-Rehnquist whining campaign.

Sincerely,
Brian Goldberg '05
San Francisco, Calif.

To the Editor:

While your article about the Ripton wireless co-op ("BiHall Broadcasting Broadband for Ripton," 1/10/07) was fascinating, the image of the dish atop BiHall suggested erroneously that the dish was part of Ripton Broadband Co-op. In fact, the dish is Middlebury College's radio telescope, which I assembled as part of my senior thesis in physics. Unlike the antenna for the Co-op, the telescope is steerable and typically pointed towards the sky, rather than another terrestrial antenna. Ripton's wireless broadband system sends information over the airwaves, but nature, too, is continuously sending us information encoded in the electromagnetic (EM) spectrum. We can see a small sliver of that information with our eyes and optical telescopes, but we can capture a much greater range of information by observing other parts of the EM spectrum, such as radio frequencies.

Sincerely,
Zach Manganello '03
Montpelier, Vt.

an open letter

To the Middlebury College Board of Trustees,

As a proud parent ('94 and '97), former head of the Parent's Fund and an active Middlebury supporter, I am at a loss to understand the selection of former President Clinton to be the 2007 Commencement Speaker and, even worse, to receive an honorary degree from this distinguished institution.

Mr. Clinton was one of only two Presidents in the long history of our republic to be impeached by the United States House of Representatives. He was impeached for lying to a grand jury, not for an adulterous sexual act. Every citizen is required to tell the truth to a grand jury, but Clinton apparently felt he was above the law.

What message about Middlebury does this send to your students and to the world? Political affiliation aside, any President should, above all, represent moral values which are in keeping not just with the Office of the Presidency but also with those of the average American citizen. The most basic of these is the duty to obey the law.

I'm sorry to say you've lost my support from now on, and I deeply regret to say you have lost my respect.

Sincerely,
James B. Cowperthwait
Boca Grande, Fla.

opinions submission policy

The Opinions pages of *The Middlebury Campus* provide a forum for constructive and respectful dialogue on substantive issues. With this in mind, *The Campus* reserves the right to deny publication of all or part of a submission for any reason. This includes, but is not limited to: the making of assertions based on hearsay; the relation of private conversations; the libelous mention of unverifiable events; the use of vulgar language or personal attacks. Any segment of a submitted article that contains any of the aforementioned will be removed before publication. Contributors will be allowed to reference prior articles published in the Opinions section or announcements for the public record. If a reference is made to prior articles, the submission will be considered a letter to the editor. *The Campus* will not accept or print anonymous letters. The opinions expressed by contributors to the Opinions section, as well as reviews, columns, editorial comics and other commentary, are views of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the newspaper. *The Campus* welcomes letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 800 words or less. Submit works directly to the Opinions Editor, Drawer 30, campus@middlebury.edu or via the paper's website at www.middleburycampus.com. To be considered for publications, submissions must be received by 5 p.m. Monday. *The Campus* reserves the right to edit all submissions.

notes from the desk: **Jake A. Kuipers**

Middlebury is Middlebury

May we always keep in mind what our college really is

Middlebury College has always been at the forefront of liberal arts academia, continually raising the bar of excellence for similar institutions to follow. To keep this beautiful place at a superior level, administrators need to change it to meet the demands of prospective students. In the four years I have been here, a new library, two dorms and a dining hall have opened. Social houses play less of a role in weekend festivities. And departments have changed faculty and staff to better the academic environment. Midd has certainly been a growing, evolving, ever-changing system. But these changes are merely modifications to the well-grounded structure of a small, liberal arts college.

As Midd changes, we all need to remind ourselves of this structure and what Middlebury will always be — a rural top tier institution with a small student body.

To the faculty and administrative staff: proactively make yourself available to students. Encourage students to stop by your office. Make replying to their emails a top priority. Take a sincere interest in what students do on campus. This is what students expect when they go to a small college like Middlebury.

To the student body: don't expect a social paradise. Party when and how you want to, but don't realistically think a keg should be available every weekday or even every weekend night. Hope for the occasional Rugby or Ski Patrol party, but don't cry to the administration when you can't find a campus-wide alcohol-friendly event on a Friday night. We go to Middlebury, not Florida State.

> Midd has certainly been a growing, evolving, ever-changing system.

We're not some ivy league school where professors are distant and exclusive, and we're not some big state school where parties rage every night of the week. We're Middlebury. Now, we shouldn't necessarily let this prohibit us from making changes that better our college community. But, when we make these changes we should always keep in mind what this school means to us.

Did we really apply to Midd because we thought we would be partying every night? I cannot speak for everyone, but I assume that that most of us applied because we wanted the academic attention, access to Vermont's outdoors, and the ability to interact with an outgoing student body.

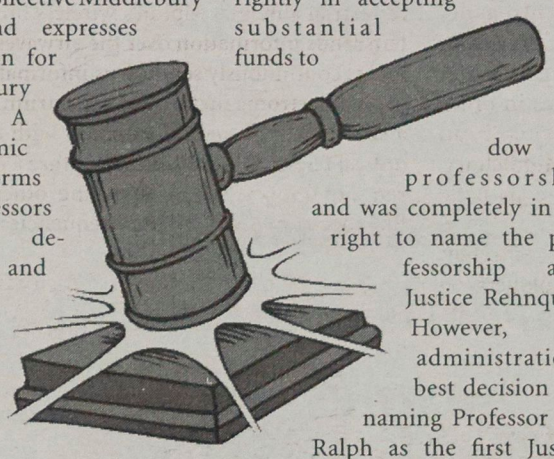
As we continue to make changes to this place, let us not forget what it truly is to us.

op-ed: **Pat Zomer**

More Rehnquist ramblings

"At Middlebury College, we challenge students to participate fully in a vibrant and diverse academic community" according to the Mision Statement of Middlebury.

I am sure you recognize the phrase above from Middlebury College's Mission Statement. The Mission Statement forms the foundation of our collective Middlebury experience and expresses our ideal vision for what Middlebury is and can be. A vibrant academic community forms when professors continuously develop within and across their disciplines and students openly engage material and theory. The administration, faculty, and student body understood and, in my opinion, fulfilled this portion of the College's mission statement during my time at Middlebury.



Unfortunately, it is my opinion that while I was at Middlebury and in the subsequent years since my graduation, attention to and progress in meeting the academic diversity portion of the mission statement has been lacking. The recent faculty motion regarding the endowed professorship named after Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist is only the latest example of a dangerous trend at the College (and within the county) to completely dismiss avenues of thought or world-views that are different from one's own.

I believe the College acted rightly in accepting the substantial funds to endow the professorship and was completely in the right to name the professorship after Justice Rehnquist. However, the administration's best decision was naming Professor Jim Ralph as the first Justice Rehnquist Professor of American History and Culture. I had the honor to take a few of Professor Ralph's classes, and I am fully convinced that he would forgo the temptation to use the position to blindly praise or ridicule Justice Rehnquist's time on the court. Professor Ralph is deeply committed to fulfilling the College's mission by providing both vibrant and diverse academic opportunities and will continue to lead thoughtful, thorough, and intellectually honest examinations of American History, including those portions influenced by Justice Rehnquist.

In his latest book, Senator Barack Obama reminds us, "it's precisely the pursuit of ideological purity, the rigid orthodoxy and the sheer predictability of our current political debate that keeps us from finding new ways to meet the challenges we face as a country." I fear attempts to distance the College from the Rehnquist professorship reinforces Senator Obama's assessment of our current problems as a country. Professor Kevin Moss eloquently related his concerns regarding the College's's acceptance of the Rehnquist professorship in *The Campus* and I genuinely regret that some of Justice Rehnquist's opinions directly infringed upon his life. Professor Moss has every right to express his displeasure with the naming of the Rehnquist professorship and I applaud his attempts to open a dialogue over the issue. However, because the professorship was given to Jim Ralph, a man who I have the utmost confidence in and respect for, I believe the Rehnquist professorship is an opportunity for Middlebury to live up to its mission and give its students the vibrant and diverse academic community it promises.

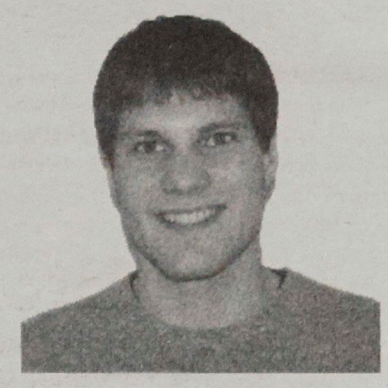
Pat Zomer '05 is a Middlebury College alumnus from Boston, Mass.

heardoncampus

> It's very democratic, and it's very dangerous.
>
> — Professor of History Amy Morsman, commenting on Wikipedia as reference source.

more matter: **Matty Van Meter**

Ban the hard stuff



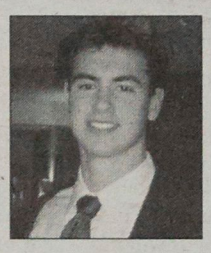
I walked into my dorm one Saturday morning and found a series of progressively filthier messes in the lounge, hall and bathroom which I will refrain from describing; suffice it to say that few bodily fluids were unrepresented. The mess stayed, of course, until early Monday morning, when our custodian pulled on her rubber gloves and scrubbed away what the soundly sleeping students had left over forty-eight hours before. She simply smiled and said "Good morning" to me in the hall as I passed, and I felt a pointed urge to apologize. While volumes could be written on the mindset that allows students to step over their own excretes for two days, waiting for someone else to scrub them up, what I really want to address is the much-maligned alcohol policy at Middlebury.

Much has been said about the changing social policies at the college. Putting aside the bellyaching over a perceived lack of parties, there is something to the substantial complaints about such controversial policies as the guest list and the need for a TIPS-trained organizer. Any college administration must play the fine line between interests here: to allow students too much freedom is to endanger both their lives and college property, and to restrict them too tightly is to invite surreptitious and uncontrolled drinking. Students, by choosing the easier route of partying off-campus, have a new set of concerns to deal with apart from the alcohol itself: drunk driving, lack of the on-campus support network and Health Center, police intervention and being far from dorms. The TIPS training requirement, the guest lists, indeed any policy which makes it harder for students to find what they want on campus will send them away and into a situation over which the college has no control.

There are few role models for colleges wishing to go beyond simplistic alcohol policies like Middlebury's, but they do exist. One is Earlham College, which bans outright the on-campus sale, possession or consumption of all alcohol by anyone, regardless of age. In equal but opposite egalitarian spirit Haverford College declares itself to be "cognizant of the Pennsylvania state law against underage drinking," but does not restrict on-campus consumption, instead making students responsible before the Honor Code Committee for their peers' behavior. While either of these may be extreme for Middlebury, there was an idea for a policy, which incorporates both, and strikes the balance.

There was discussion last semester of a proposal to ban the possession and consumption of all hard liquor on campus, which was met with fiery resistance by students, according to a *Campus* poll. At the risk of flying in the face of the great majority of students, let me make a recommendation for the policy: the students who become uncontrollably drunk, damage college property or go to the hospital are not generally drinking beer or wine. The simple truth is that of-age students, most of whom live in suites which public safety cannot enter, would be able to drink liquor in the privacy of their rooms, and underclassmen could drink beer and wine without fear of citation. Such a policy would also, presumably, be accompanied by a loosening of restrictions for such dangerous policies as guest lists and the TIPS training requirement, which drive students off campus, away from the care of the community, and into the jurisdiction of the police. Whatever the Beastie Boys might say, partying is a privilege, not a right, and one which the college has a need to supervise both for its own good and for the good of the students in his community. Correctly implemented, the liquor ban could be an effective way both to increase the safety and cleanliness of the college, and to revive a declining social scene, by decreasing regulations placed upon on-campus parties. And maybe the custodial staff could have a more enjoyable Monday morning.

the web poll: **What do you think of Bill Clinton speaking at commencement?**

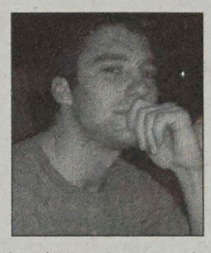


"Bill Clinton is the man. I wish he were still the president."

—SHANE SPINNEL '08.5

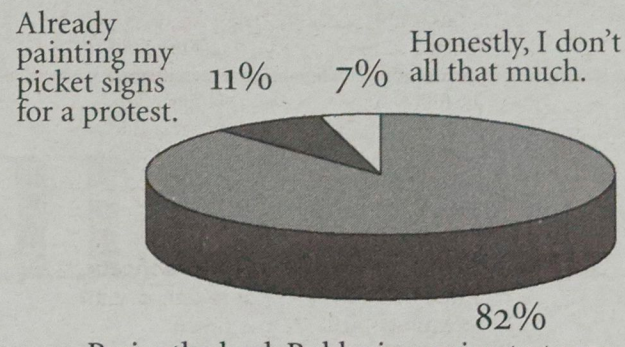
"I think it says a lot about the college to have such a distinguished american figure as the commencement speaker"

— CLAIRE WILLIAMS '10



"I think it's awesome that they got such a high profile speaker. It's a great way to honor an oustanding senior class."

— SCOTT SECOR '07


Already painting my picket signs for a protest.
11%
7%
Honestly, I don't care all that much.
82%
Praise the lord, Bubba is coming to town.

Results taken from online poll: <www.middlebury campus.com>

Next week's web poll: **Have you ever utilized wikipedia as an academic resource?**

in my humble opinion: Daniel Roberts

An awkward location

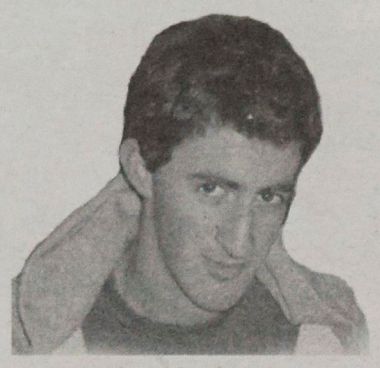
An awkward location indeed.

At room draw last April, I chose a nice, fat single in Hepburn. The room was within a block (two singles and a double) that included a bathroom. Super. I made sure my friend got the other single, and that was that. The double was still open, but we just figured two random dudes would snag it. Who cares, as long as they weren't obnoxious hippies.

Then, I arrived for fall semester, and — gasp — two girls were moving into the double. This was fine, and I even knew the two girls; Both are nice people. Yet I couldn't help but worry about sharing a bathroom with girls. Sorry, but — kind of weird, right?

As it turns out, the sharing has been fine. I have yet to find gross "feminine products" in the trash, and I have done my part to leave no traces of shaving cream on the vanity. Occasionally, I find a long blonde hair stuck to the shower wall, but I deal with it. Just like the girls deal with it when I leave my boxers lying on the floor. As we all used to say in middle school, "no biggie."

Still, the block situation is different. There are only four of us. Very manageable. I still contend that the big bathrooms, say, the giant co-ed ones of Battell, for example,



are an uncomfortable place.

Some of you will disagree and say, "This is a stupid point. There's nothing weird about co-ed bathrooms." Fine, tough guy. But I assure you I'm not the only one who hesitates to do certain "things" in the bathroom if a girl is in there. Furthermore, I would guess that girls, too, probably don't feel too excited about, say, asking someone to borrow a tampon if some dude is right there, shaving at the sink. Am I wrong?

It is interesting to me that universities could create co-ed bathrooms and expect students to feel comfortable using them. Let's be honest, there are certain undesirable "special effects" that play when a guy is sitting in the stall. Noises might voice themselves, smells might eke out from the door. I mean, obviously these things never come from me, but you know, most guys.

Plus, ladies, let's not pretend you are innocent either. Sure, I went through that period in high school where I fooled myself into believing that girls were completely pure. I honestly was convinced that women do not pee, fart or burp. And they certainly never take "dumps." I was sure of that.

Yet now I am a wiser man. I know those childhood fantasies to be false. We have all watched that infamous taco scene in Harold & Kumar. You know the one. Plus, my friend Sakura proudly considers Everybody Poops her favorite book.

So I don't know what can be done. Perhaps co-ed bathrooms in college are a bad idea. My mom told me she once attended a lecture by a respected child psychologist who memorably joked, "If the bathrooms at my college had been co-ed, I would have been constipated for four years." Hilarious, yes, but he was probably half-serious, and there must be some who share his qualms.

All I am saying is that, to put it bluntly, if I walk into a bathroom holding a book, there is really only one thing I am about to do. And if a girl is in there brushing her teeth or something, I ain't doing it. Sorry, administration.

WANTED:

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arts editor

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information,
e-mail

campus
@middlebury
.edu

letters to the editor

continued from page 8

To the Editor:

Saddam Hussein is dead. Right before the New Year. Was the Iraqi government worried Saddam was going to break out of prison if he was not executed? Probably not. Would he have been a threat to society while locked up? I doubt it. So why the need to execute the former dictator?

This was not a case of possible innocence. No one questions that Saddam was guilty of mass murder. The issue at hand is whether or not he deserved to have his life taken from him for his crimes.

Religious and non-religious people alike believe that life is sacred and that the taking of life is usually wrong. Just as there's no way to deny that Saddam's crimes were horrendous and inexcusable, there's no way to hide the hypocrisy of killing killers.

Since childhood we have been taught that two wrongs don't make a right. An eye for an eye is no longer the accepted practice in punishing criminals. The U.S. government seems to understand and follow that principle in all cases except murder trials – we don't beat assaulters, rape rapists, or torture torturers.

What does the United States' approval of execution say about us as a nation? That we are capable of treating life as casually as the criminals we punish? We had an opportunity to show the world that we hold the gift of life in high regard. If we are willing to kill a person who can no longer hurt us, are we not hard-hearted and incapable of taking the high road?

Sincerely,
David Schoenholtz '07
Middlebury, Vt.

To the Editor:

In February, the Student Task force on Social Life will meet with the Board of Trustees to discuss social life on campus. Whatever their conclusions, there is one thing we can all agree on—something is wrong.

Is it a problem that there are no longer parties in many campus social spaces, or that not a single freshman in Allen this year has gone to Porter for detox? I think so. The usual suspects of 1) the commons system and 2) increased requirements for reserving a space and hosting a party, are not entirely to blame. These problems need to be addressed, but with some foresight and consideration they can be solved. One obstacle to a healthy campus social life without a foreseeable solution is the new library.

How is the student body supposed to take the initiative, time, and money to host parties when the best social space on campus is a supposed "quiet space?" Ever since the library became the social hub of campus, what people do there has become socially significant by extension.

Term papers and problem sets have replaced favorite music and rehashing good weekend parties as go-to topics of conversation.

We wouldn't be in this party-starved situation had Starr Library never closed. People used to hide deep in Starr's labyrinthine halls to do their work alone and in silence. You didn't talk about assignments because they were something you did in the library, and the library was not cool.

As long as people looking for conversation and friendly faces are drawn to the lights of the library like fourteen-year-olds to a mall's marquee, there will be no cure for Middlebury's atrophied social scene.

Sincerely,
Justin Boren '06.5
Minneapolis, Minn.

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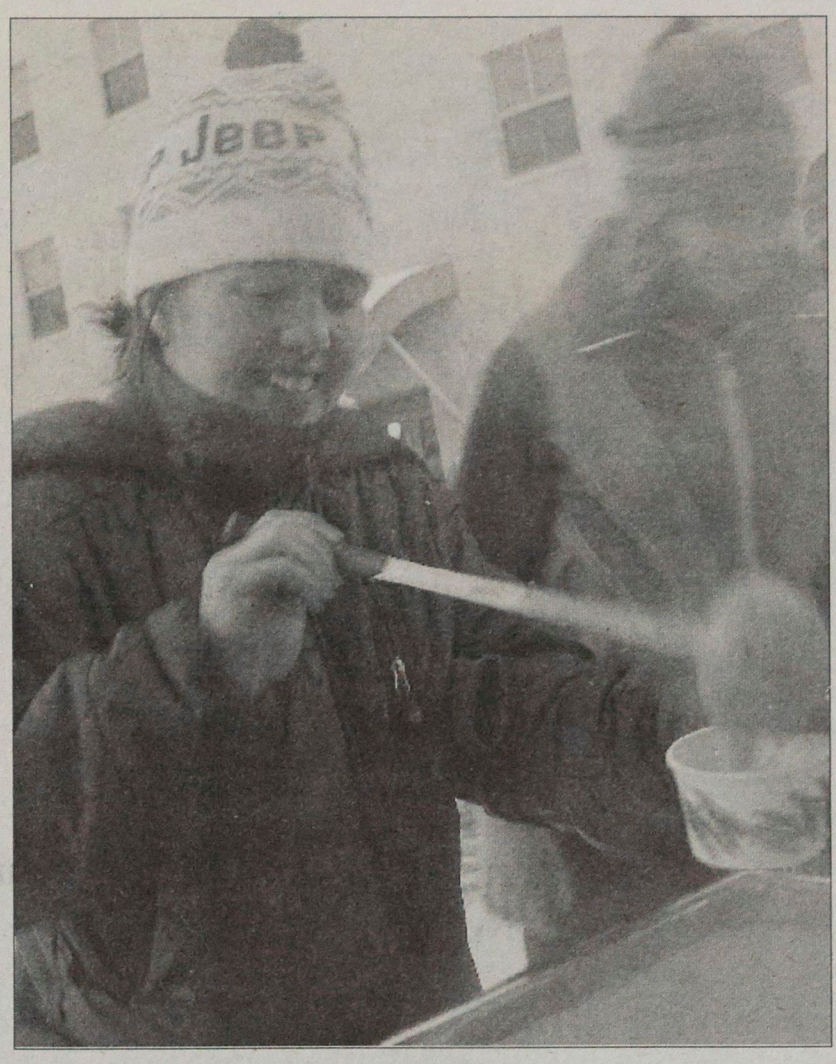
Get Outside!

photography by Ilhan Kim and Marie Hobar

As a cold artic air from Canada blew across Battell Beach early last Tuesday morning, most students huddled under blankets and turned the radiator to the highest setting. But if you happened to have been walking on the east side of Battell beach, you might have noticed something peculiar. Kate Macfarlane '10 and Catherine Klem '10 were loading a pillow into a tent. Yes, after all others had hung up their North Face parkas, Kate and Catherine were braving the weather to participate in "Get Outside Week," sponsored by the Sunday Night Group and Middlebury Mountain Club. Macfarlane and Klem constituted one of eight tents on "Tent City," where students competed for how long they could embrace this beautiful season.

What do you wear to bed when you're sleeping outside in January? McFarlane only packed one thing: long underwear.



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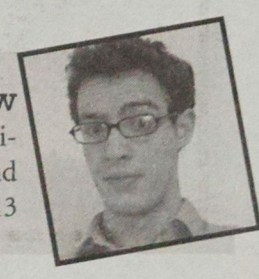
What everyone woman should know about the newest vaccination, page 14

the man who had a dream
Middlebury celebrates the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., with a series of events, page 14

newton's law
Apple, Microsoft, Apple, Microsoft...which to choose? And what's with the iPhone?, page 13



Oh the course offerings, they are a changin'

Students enjoy world's first ever J-term class devoted solely to Bob Dylan

By Mike Murali
Assistant Features Editor

On May 24, 1941, Robert Zimmerman was born to a Jewish family in Duluth, Minnesota. By the time he turned 18, the aspiring artist changed his name to Bob Dylan — a name that would become legendary in the world of music.

This J-term, a slew of students enrolled in a class offered by the Music Department entitled "Bob Dylan's America." Taught by Assistant Professor of Music Larry Hamberlin, this class is the first course in the United States to be taught exclusively on Dylan. It covers the cultural influence of the artist and his impact on several social movements, in particular those of the 60's.

"A few years ago, when I was teaching a survey of rock music, I started thinking about Dylan's place in music history, and I realized that he is probably the most influential figure in American musical history," said Hamberlin of the idea for the class. "I can't name any other individual who so fundamentally changed our ideas of what a popular song can be and what it can say."

From these initial thoughts, he came up with the idea for the class and spent last Fall listening to Dylan's music and conducting extensive research on him.

"Before Dylan, pop songs are somewhat universalized, in that song lyrics tend to be about generalized experiences that just about everyone can identify with. After Dylan, people expect a good song to convey a personal message and bear the mark of the songwriter's personality, even to the extent that the lyrics might be obscure and hard to understand."

The class not only deals with Dylan, but also with the politics of his time, including the Civil Rights Movement, nuclear disarmament and student antiwar movements, as well as the literature and music which influenced him, such as work by musicians Hank Williams, Little Richard and Allen Ginsberg. Chris Hassig '09 said of the class, "We've talked about his beat influences, mostly Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg. We've gotten a sense of the state of music when Dylan arrived, his personal journey to prominence, his simple but brilliant combination of the folk/blues music tradition and the social commentary and poetry of the beats and his reluctant roll as a figurehead of the civil rights/ anti-war/ early 60's protest movement."

Chris Heinrich

Students listen intently as professor Larry Hamberlin and Anais Mitchell discuss Bob Dylan's legacy in "Bob Dylan's America," a course which is the first offering of its kind to date.

The course material includes the "Rough Guide to Bob Dylan" as well as Christopher Ricks' "Dylan's Visions of Sin," with the artist's memoirs and other materials. These written materials supplement a vast supply of music put out by Dylan which students listen to as homework.

Dylan was a major player in the evolution of folk/rock music and an emblem of the changing culture of his time.

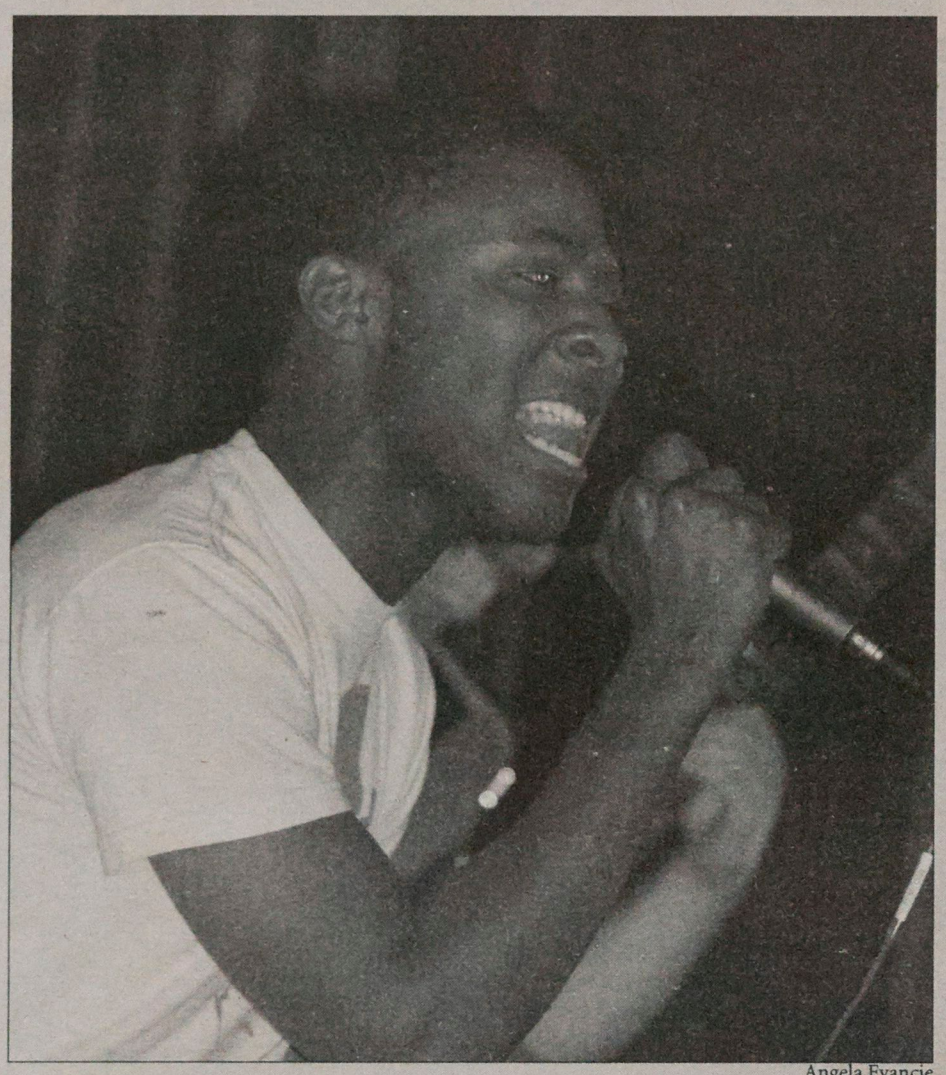
"For many complicated reasons, including plain old luck, Dylan's songs expressed the unspoken feelings of lots of Americans in the early 1960s, and for that reason he became a musical and political 'spokesman of his generation,' to use a media label that he hated," said Hamberlin. "Even after he parted ways with the mainstream musical culture, he continued to create interesting and moving music, right up to the present day."

Dylan's music had a significant impact on the music of the time as well, influencing most American artists in the past half century. Whether large or small, the influences exist in many of the bands popular today, including Aerosmith and the Rolling Stones.

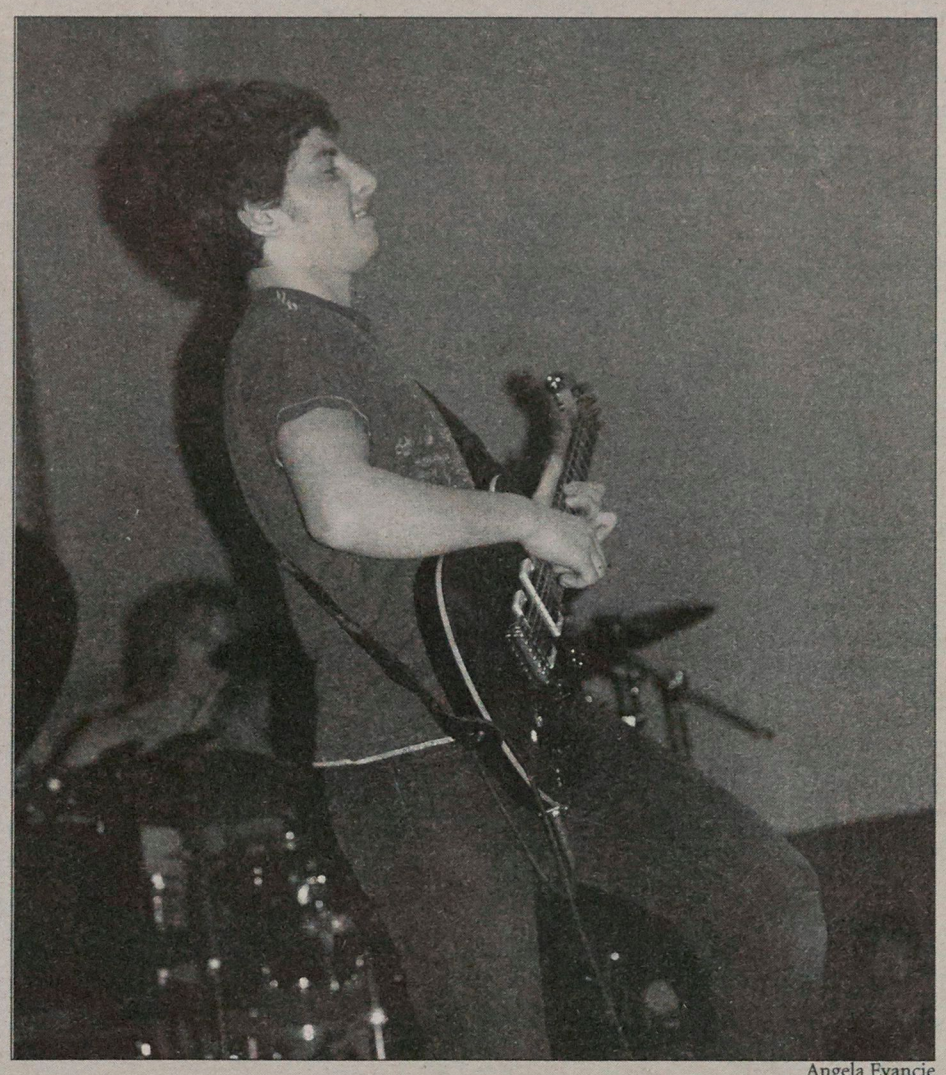
The class also influenced students' opinions of the artist. "My respect for Dylan as an artist has become exponentially higher, which I didn't think was possible," said Scott Robinson '09 "and the class has shown that Dylan was pretty removed from the 'hippie' movement and all that, even though most people associate him with being the voice of that generation." Hassig's view of the artist changed with course, as he stated, "I already had a view of him as a rambler and a very individualistic artist, but he's come off to me as even more of a loner, and I feel oddly negative toward his personality and sorry for him at the same time. It seems as though he spent so much time cultivating his artistic persona and escaping his roots that no one really knew him and thus he couldn't really cultivate very meaningful or strong connections with anyone."

Of the class, Hassig reflects, "This is one of those classes that you people who bent to self-imposed obligations or ideas of legitimizing J-term will wake up one day and regret you didn't take. In all likelihood I'll have other chances to try my hand at Organic Chemistry, Chinese, or various history topics."

Midd's best rock benefit bash



Angela Evancie



Angela Evancie

"The benefit concert was unique in the sense that, while there are many student performers around campus, it's not often that we all get to participate in the same event. Everyone was very energized because the show had a real and magnanimous purpose," reflected Matt Boucher '08, a member of the Mamajamas. Many groups performed in Friday's J-term Benefit Concert, including Riddim, Mischords, Bobolinks, Mamajamas, Dawn's Basement, Genius Cave and The Supermarket. The concert, which was held as a fundraising opportunity for Middlebury Alernative Breaks (MAlt) raised over 1,000 dollars. "Playing at fundraisers and engaging in other events for campus organizations is a great opportunity and there should be more of it around campus. Most bands would jump at the chance to play, and if you're helping out a meaningful cause you can't beat that," said Josh Wessler '09 a member of the Supermarket. This year, MAlt has focused on raising funds for a literacy effort in the Dominican Republic and volunteer work with Save the Children in New Orleans.

Wise to Midd: Wise up on racism

Anti-racism expert speaks to College on white privilege

By Aylie Baker
Features Editor

"Everything I will say today I've stolen from someone else," began Tim Wise in his lecture "Profit and Loss: White Privilege and its Consequences for Racial Equity and Justice," last Wednesday in Dana Auditorium. "I'm here not because I'm better than others," but rather "because I fit the aesthetic," said Wise, who used his own personal experience to motivate his lecture.

Wise tackled, with a provocative tone and witty eloquence, the topic of privilege and its manifestations in the United States today. "We must be honest with ourselves," he urged a packed Dana Auditorium audience, "examining who we are, where we are and why."

Wise is one of the most renowned anti-racist activists and writers in the United States today. Out of college, he became the Assistant Director of the Louisiana Coalition Against Racism and Nazism, a group created largely for the purpose of defeating Louisiana's neo-Nazi political candidate, David Duke. Amidst an intense campaign battle, Wise spearheaded the antiracism campaign and garnered world-wide recognition for his efforts. Since embarking on the lecture circuit in his mid-twenties, Wise has spoken in 48 states at over 400 college campuses and for countless community groups. Aside from just speaking, Wise also works to battle racism and privilege in institutions nationwide, training teachers, physicians and other professionals how to combat and prevent inequalities.

Wise prefaced his talk by asserting that, despite years of lecturing and campaigning, he has nothing original to offer. "Mine is the collective wisdom shared with me by people of color." The essential difference between his words and theirs, he explained, was that by nature of his being white, Wise's words carry with them a credibility not extended to minority groups; they have more reaching power because he enjoys, however imperceptibly, white privilege.

Drawing heavily on personal anecdotes, Wise charted his own ascent to fame and prestige, demonstrating how his own life is a prime example of white privilege. Wise began his introspective study with an examination of his great grandfather, a Jewish immigrant. While he had endured his own share of struggles in Europe, upon arriving in the United States, his great grandfather was able to gain direct access to the opportunity structure because he fell under the general umbrella of whiteness. According to Wise, his ability to work his way up was directly contingent to the color of his skin.

Despite coming from a poor family, Wise was fortunate enough to attend Tulane University, in large part because of his skin color. Because Tulane's tuition was very expensive, Wise described how his grandmother had to sign for a loan, using her house as collateral. Had he been born into a black family of similar socioeconomic background, Wise asserted, he likely would not have had the same credibility with the bank and would have had significantly more difficulty in securing a loan. In this case, privilege extended from the economic realm into the psychological. The white race is not going to signify bad credit, dishonesty, Wise claimed. People are crippled by "mental schemas — a set of ideas related to one another, which the out-group triggers," he explained.

"If the President were a black man and mangled the English language in the same way President Bush does," said Wise, "his inarticulateness would trigger a set of associations which would not rub off." In other words, people of color suffer from what Wise deemed "the burden of representation," adding, "they have to be 100 percent accurate in order to be respected."

Thus, had he not come from a white family, Wise explained, he likely would not have secured a loan, or have attended college, or have been able to forge the connections which landed him a job in the anti-racism arena.

Angela Evancie

In his lecture this past Wednesday, Tim Wise charted his own ascent to fame as a prime example of the lasting "residue of white privilege."

The story of his great grandfather, the story of his own rise to fame, is "not only my story," he asserted, "but the story of the white American."

Even forty years after the collapse of formal segregation in the United States, there still exists a residue of formalized white privilege. Equality is far from achieved — past inequalities continue to reverberate into the present. "Inertia is a property of the socioeconomic universe as well," said Wise. "You can't get around it."

"Today," he explained, "the average white family has ten times the net worth of the average African American family, and eight times that of the average Latino family."

Can such wide disparity be attributed to greater intelligence, to hard work, to classic rugged individualism? "Not at all," Wise insisted.

Americans must not fall into the "innocence trap," he warned. Often, he explained, we confuse culpability with responsibility. Just because today's white people were not directly involved in enforcing slavery does not mean that they can remain complacent. Too easily we fall upon passive language and passive action. People are labeled as "at risk," Wise said, "but from what?" We speak of the underprivileged, but what of the "overprivileged?"

"People of color don't need whites to save them," he said. "They need us [whites] to take respect for ourselves." White Americans need to abandon their myopic sense of responsibility. Mired by this residue of privilege, Americans have become willing victims of "hubris — this self-inflated sense of one's righteousness that doesn't allow us to see our true selves."

What can whites do to assuage existing prejudices and to dismantle the social institution of privilege? The "answers are found in community, in the everyday struggle," said Wise.

"Yell, cry, scream a little," he urged, but above all, "don't give away your agency." Whites must "relinquish that privilege of our silence, we can't leave it to the people of color." However tempting, whites cannot be content to remain voyeurs in a society which is still tarnished by marginalization. "There's a fundamental difference between culpability and responsibility," insisted Wise. There's no use dodging calls to reform by hiding behind the shield of "I didn't do it."

Demonstrating a great adeptness in his ability to link concepts, Wise alluded to inequalities, which are overarching, existing not only racially, but also in the realm of gender and ethnicity. More than ever, warned Wise, we're entering into a "toxic atmosphere, in which the stakes are increasingly high." We must not only examine what it means to be white or black, but we must also scrutinize our place in our society, who we are and how we've arrived here.

15 minutes with....Oona Cassidy '07

Childhood Ambition...In 2nd grade, I said I wanted to be successful; an incredibly pompous response for such a young age.

Greatest Fear...being buried alive.

Inspiration...When I went to preschool, my mother got her GED, went to college, then got her masters from NYU, became a professor and had her own business.While I was in grammar school, my father went to Columbia for his masters while working at the UN as well as night clubs six days a week. I am forever in awe of them both.

Soundtrack...The Specials, Sublime, Bjork, Saves the Day, Kanye West and the Kooks

Indulgence...art supplies, gravy fries and "Nip/Tuck"

Last Purchase...purple and black silk dress

Wildest Dream...I want to make enough money so that I can open up an orphanage.

Retreat...my room or St.Louis, MO

Courtesy

newton's laws

by Thomas Newton

Here's a hypothetical situation: you're four years old, and for all of those years you've been a shining star in your parent's eyes. You could do no wrong. On one fateful spring night, however, your world is rocked: a new baby brother is brought home. You fall from the zenith of the heavens to simply being the older sibling. The only way to regain some attention is by doing something big. Maybe it's the Nobel Peace Prize, curing cancer, or not throwing a tantrum when you have to get on the school bus to kindergarten. Whatever it is, it has to be big.

Why discuss sibling rivalry? Because it acts as a perfect analogue to the relationship between Apple and Microsoft. Apple started out as the star child of the personal computing market with the introduction of the affordable Apple II in the summer of 1977. Several years later, Microsoft, the annoying younger brother, took Apple's technology and created its own personal computers and then, seemingly overnight, Microsoft had 98 percent of the PC market.

What has Apple done to get their act back together? Well, after they almost went bankrupt in the late nineties they introduced a little device that would earn them 90 percent of the market for hard-drive based music players and 70 percent of the market for all music players, the iPod. Apple's next step, the introduction of Apple retail stores as destinations to try out new technology. Top all this off with an insanely effective advertising campaign, and Apple's share of the personal computer market grew 30 percent in the past two years.

Clearly Apple has a winning formula for enacting revenge on Microsoft's personal computer market monopoly. But now that Apple has control of the digital music market and is gaining ground in the computing market, what's next? Quite obviously a device that will combine all of Apple's specialties, miniaturize it, and get it into the pockets of millions — the iPhone. The iPhone is jammed with a two megapixel camera, four or eight gigabytes of memory, a gigantic "multi-touch" display, iPod functionality, full screen video playback, quad-band GSM compatibility, WiFi and Bluetooth. There's not much this baby doesn't offer. But are consumers ready to lay down $499 to $599 for Apple's truly smart phone and get Apple's CEO Steve Jobs the one percent of the mobile phone market he's gunning for?

Apple is in the perfect position to launch the iPhone and claim the one percent of the market that they intend to in 2008 (and that one percent means one million devices). Apple's products are well-designed, well-built, well-thought out, and well-received. The iPhone is innovative, elegant, functional and, most importantly, original. In a world where every cell phone manufacturer has in some way, shape or form copied the Motorola Razr, it's refreshing to see Apple introduce a phone that's strikingly different. I wouldn't expect anything less from Apple; the older sibling that's successfully regaining the attention of the parents who were getting sick of Microsoft's lack of creativity.

sexsage

by Sage Biester

Every year during Christmas break I go for a routine check-up at my obstetrician-gynocologist. The trip is similar to a dentist appointment except it usually involves nudity and an uncomfortable encounter with cold metal.

Joking aside, this appointment was important. I wanted to ask my doctor about the new HPV vaccine Gardasil. Although the vaccine was gaining popularity, I wasn't sure about the specifics. She recommended I wait and visit Middlebury's health center. Surely, she said, you can get the vaccine at school.

But could I? As much as I utilize the services offered by Parton Health Center, many people on campus, myself included, feel clueless as to the resources offered by the College in terms of women's health. So I decided to do a little research for the sake of all ladies at Middlebury. I got my results back, (I tested negative for HPV), and I immediately scheduled an appointment to talk with the Associate Director of Patron Health Center Terry Jenny.

HPV, or human papillomavirus, is extremely widespread among college-age adults. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), there are an average of 5.5 million cases diagnosed every year. There are over 100 strains of the virus, of which over 30 are sexually transmitted, and can cause everything from genital warts to cervical, penile and anal cancer.

The vaccine Gardasil is only effective against four common strains, two of which cause genital warts and two of which can lead to cervical cancer. If you already have one or more of these strains of HPV, the vaccine does not provide a cure, although you can still get vaccinated against any of the four types you do not already have.

You do not need to get a PAP smear or a pelvic exam before you get the vaccine, although Jenny was quick to mention that you should do so if you have never had either or if it has been over a year since you last had one. Both of these services are offered at Parton.

"It's simple," Jenny said. The shot comes in a series of three. After discussing the vaccine and the virus with a Nurse Practitioner at the Health Center, you can make an appointment for your first shot.

The pharmacy will even deliver it to the Health Center. The next shot should be taken two months later, and the last will be six months after the first dose. Although the vaccine is expensive, the price has fallen to $140 per dose. Also, about 50 percent of insurance providers are covering at least *some* of the cost (up from 0 percent this summer). "Its expensive, but why not?" Jenny quipped.

For every woman on campus who wants to get the vaccine (and you should get it), the prescription is available at Parton, so do it now and worry a little less the next time you go to the gyno.

Close encounters of the Cook kind

Marie Horbar

Cook's "Close Encounters Prom" proved to be out of this world this past Saturday night as students joined together and get jiggy wit' it.

College honors memory of MLK, Jr.

By Kate Lupo
Staff Writer

From the spire of Mead Chapel to the intimate setting of the Ross Fireplace Lounge, the message of Martin Luther King, Jr. pervaded the College last week. Through joyous singing, compelling speeches and meaningful discussions, the College community collectively celebrated King's massive contributions to civil rights in America.

Two highly anticipated and memorable events occurred on campus on Jan. 15th, King's birthday — "Remembrance and Reflection: A Tribute to Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." and "Let Freedom Sing! Martin Luther King Day Concert." The tribute to King featured a talk by Dean for Institutional Diversity Shirley Ramirez follwing remarks by President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz and Governor Jim Douglas (R-Vt.). Excerpts from King's speeches were read aloud by students while Twilight Artist-in-Residence François Clemmons provided musical contributions to the event.

Later on in the evening, anticipation mounted as students, faculty, staff and Middlebury residents readied for, "Let Freedom Sing! A Celebration of the American Negro Spiritual and the Life and Words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," held in Mead Chapel. The program, directed by Mike Kiernan, featured dramatic readings of King's speeches by New York actor Esau Pritchett and Negro spirituals performed by Clemmons and 80 members of the Middlebury Spiritual Choir. Pritchett hopes he can come back again next year "because events like this are truly valuable. It doesn't matter what color you are, everyone can enjoy and celebrate the overall message of a performance like this," he said.

Furthering Pritchett's sentiments, Clemmons said, "For the past eight years I have been able to watch the support for this great man's legacy grow more and more into today's community-wide celebration. It's most heartening to see the College and the community join together in song and spirit to dialogue, examine and share the true meaning of non-violent civil disobedience, which was at the core of Dr. King's civil rights message."

Blake Johnson '10 said of the event, "I found the MLK Memorial Event to be not only a worthy tribute to one of the greatest men of the twentieth century, but also a vehicle for bringing people together for a common goal — peace and equality among people of all races, creeds and faiths."

In addition to Monday night's events at Mead, Tuesday night brought a special performance to Ross Fireplace Lounge when Esau Pritchett re-emerged alongside actor Christopher Burris to star in Blue Door, a new play written by Tanya Barfield. The show, originally intended for two men, was extended to include five College students — Ekow Edzie '10, Sparkle Joyner '10, Sheyenne Brown '09, Muchadei Zvoma '07 and Knef King '08.

The script revolves around Lewis (played by Burris), a mathematician who has spent his whole life trying to escape his identity as an African American. One night, however, Lewis is visited by the ghosts of his ancestors — men and women who have lived through significant times in African American history from the pre-Civil War era, Reconstruction, and the Black Power movement. These figures from the past recount scenes of their lives, narrating their struggles, loves, happiness and pain.

Edzie, a member of the show, said, "Acting in this play was a great experience. Essau and Chris are phenomenal. I went into it thinking it would just be an interesting thing to try, the whole storytelling aspect of theatre. After reading over the script I knew there was obviously something more to it, but I honestly didn't realize the show's power until the opening night," he said, adding, "It was definitely one of the most rewarding plays I've been in." Visiting Lecturer in Theatre Dana Yeaton, an organizer of the event, hopes that the performance of Blue Door could become an annual event. Next year though, he "hopes to open up the play to not just African American students, but to anyone who wishes to participate."

Finally, King's spirit was solemnized through the video displays of Eyes On The Prize, a 14-hour television series produced in 1987. Television sets in Bi-Hall, McCullough, and the entrance of the New Library looped the movie throughout the day. The series contains exclusive interviews with Malcolm X, Rosa Parks and MLK himself. This footage brings to life the people, places and events that made the Civil Rights Movement one of the most turbulent times in American history.

King's short life stirs "what-if" conversations even today. "If Dr. King were alive today I'm sure he'd be involved in many of the important and often controversial issues which occupy us now like global warming, stem-cell research, white privilege, discrimination based on sexual preference, our war in Iraq and Afghanistan, modern slavery, etc.," said Clemmons. He added, "Dr. King was not a fearful man and I'm sure he would have spoken out on all of these issues."

WINNERS & LOSERS

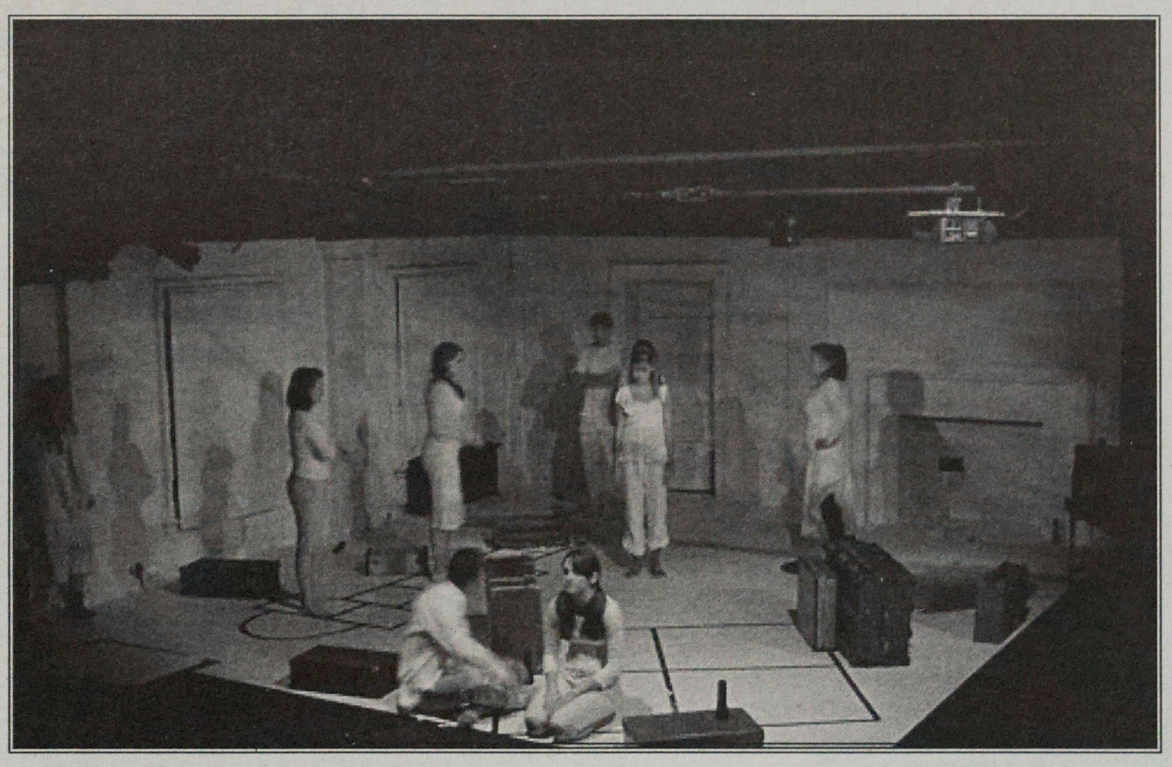
What's hot and what's not on campus and in pop culture? *The Campus* gives its weekly report.

Justin Timberlake	Cameron Diaz
Rumors of Scarlett, a hot new album, who needs that washed up Charlie's Angel?	Cam, let's ditch the brown hair and tell your agent to stop giving you scripts like "The Holiday."
J-Term Academics	Icy paths
This is what we are talking about when we say a manageable work load.	Can't we get a good salting around here?
Martin Scorsese	Martin Scorsese
Congratulations on the Golden Globe!	Judging from your past Oscar track record, expect to see Beyonce win for best director before you do.

Creation from Destruction

by Grace Duggan • photography by Ross Bell

Jonathan Larson said that "the opposite of war isn't peace, it's creation." The multimedia performance which evolved from the childhood memories of Professsor of Film and Media Culture Ted Perry and artist Hans Breder sought to express the tramautizing effects of growing-up amidst the violence of war. The result proved controversial, but was it effective?



Above: Projections complete Professor Ted Perry's conception of a multimedia experience
Below: Stephanie Spencer '09 and company bring the vision to life

editor picks

24 **This Is Our Youth**
FIC Cook
Jan 24th and 25th
at 8:00 p.m.

An entirely independent, non-credit bearing production, *This is Our Youth* is the product of seven motivated theater students. The work follows two disillusioned upper West Side kids as they move through the 1980's.

26 **On the Open Road**
Wright Theatre
8 p.m.

The senior directing work of Evan Dumouchel '06.5, this play by Steve Tesich is a dark comedy that explores the realities of a post-civil war devastation brought on by the second coming of Christ.

Paradise Now
Dana
Auditorium
3 and 8 p.m. **27**

Sponsored by the Hirschfield International Film Series, this work follows the last days of two Palestinian childhood friends as they prepare to execute a strike on Tel Aviv.

27 **Student Voice Recital**
CFA Concert Hall
8 p.m.

Performances by many of Middlebury's advanced vocal students. Come support the Music Department's impressive young talent.

Memories of war make for a torn audience

By Grace Duggan
Staff Writer

This past weekend marked the end of one of the more ambitious J-term classes available this year, as the cast of "When I Was A Child" gave three performances in the Hepburn Zoo. These performances were inspired by an intriguing concept: the use of presentational theatre to reflect on the experiences and memories of children during wartime, specifically World War II.

Faculty director Ted Perry, who was a child living in the United States during World War II, co-created the work with German-born artist Hans Breder, who also was a child during this time. They drew from their personal experiences and memories. For this production of "When I Was A Child," which has been performed in Texas and Spain in the past, it was the cast that worked with Perry. Starrett Berry '09 explained, "We slowly created a whole new piece out of the raw material that Ted Perry gave us."

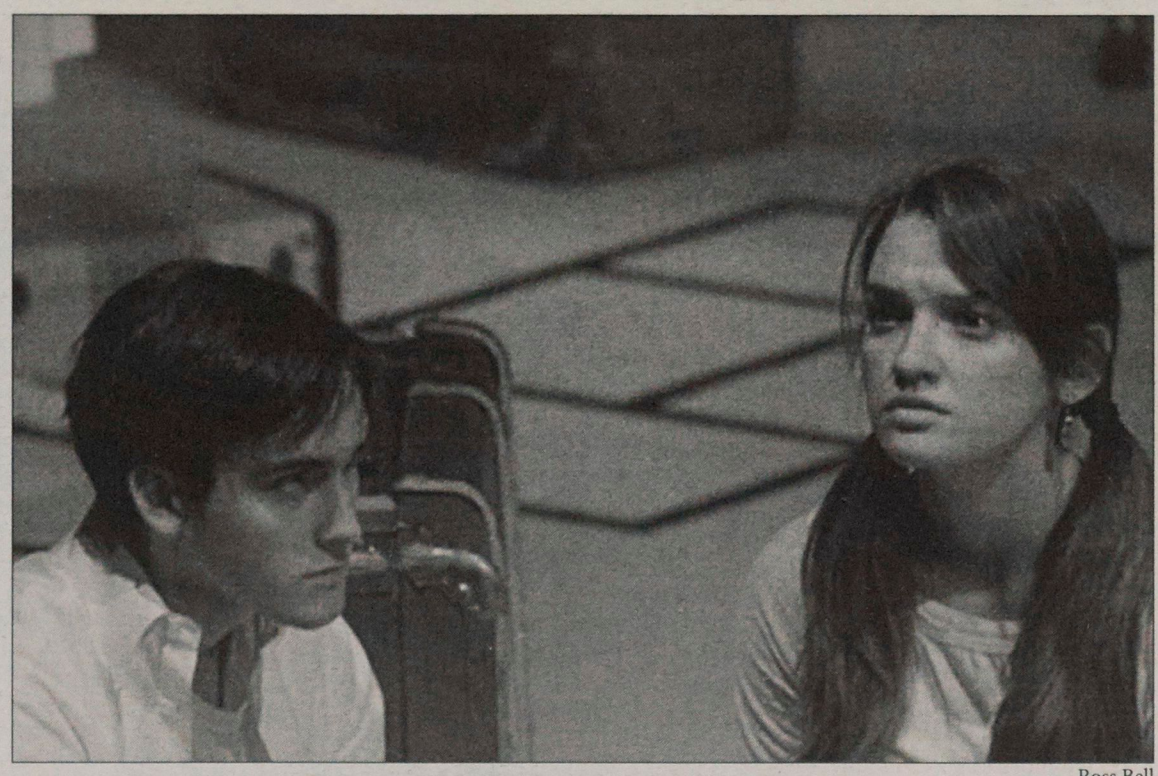
"We started off by looking at World War II newsreels and documentary footage to see what we would work with," said Berry. We then chose which portions of the script fit best with which clip. This put us, the students and cast, in the driver's seat. The final product was the result of competition between creative ideas of the cast."

"When I Was A Child" opened with the actors walking out onto a white stage with hopscotch and foursquare boards painted on the ground and suitcases all over the stage. Using flashlights, the actors looked around before sitting down to open suitcases and peer inside. Throughout the performance there was no plot and no specific characters. Actors shared and played multiple non-descript roles. The hour-long performance wandered, sometimes doubling back on itself with the use of repetition or allusions to dialogue previously spoken. Throughout the performance, images played on the walls behind the actors. These images included American and German newsreels, propaganda posters, home movies, and family photographs.

While individual portions of the performance were moving and powerful, they lacked overall cohesion, and were sometimes more confusing than thought-provoking. The actors recited a number of lines in Spanish, French, German, and Hebrew. This was especially poignant when the actors marched and followed Dustin Schwartz '10 as he passed out propaganda posters from different countries involved in World War II.

At other points in the show, such as the gruesome description of the flesh and organs of an autopsied corpse, the use of these languages became superfluous and distracting. In a monologue shared between a number of actors that gradually deteriorated into the repetition of single words, the memory of a mother being raped while her son was forced to watch was more shocking than other parts of the play, and did not seem to fit in with the rest of the performance.

The offstage voices and sound effects that peppered the performance — including an unidentifiable sound that repeatedly scared the performers — along with indistinguishable images projected on the walls were, for the most part, overly vague and often detracted from other, stronger parts of the work.



Ross Bell

Starret Berry '09 and Stephanie Spencer '09 delivered impressive performances as children experiencing the traumas of wartime. The collective portrayal of children was the highlight of the performance.

The actors succeeded, however, in conveying the mannerisms of young children. When Leah Bevis '09 ripped up a letter and walked offstage, the others pieced it together and clustered around Berry to listen to him read it out loud. He stumbled on words, sounded out syllables one-by-one, and looked to the other characters for help on difficult words. When he finished the letter, Laura Harris '07 showed the length of most children's attention spans when she flippantly announced, "I'm bored."

In another part of the performance, Harris threw a temper tantrum about wanting bubble gum while Stephanie Spencer '09 said, "I dreamed my daddy came back from the dead." Berry tried to convince her that it was all a dream and the two tantrums began to overlap and drown each other out, emphasizing the unique dichotomy of children's experiences during war. This division between childhood innocence and dealing with the grotesque and disturbing realities of war was a central message in the performance. Especially powerful was a game of "Concentration," which found the actors naming "things that smelled nice," before turning to more jarring topics like propaganda slogans and types of weapons. They also stacked up suitcases and played war, using their hands as guns before pantomiming an air raid, which resulted in one child cowering in the corner until the others noticed and comforted him.

Perry's director's notes read like a disclaimer when he assured the audience that "when the performance seems repetitious or boring, elliptical or obtuse, the audience member has to trust that the makers are not trying to punish anyone." Yet a rigorous rehearsal schedule and intense collaboration between the cast and Perry was not enough to bring "When I Was A Child" to the level that Perry described in his notes. The performance failed to convey the sense that, "the audience member is a collaborator, a co-creator who is participating in the making of the experience." Rather, strength in the performance was found in individual vignettes within the overall performance and in the efforts of the actors to accurately portray themselves as children.

Meridian broadens Midd's musical horizons

By Sara Jameson
Arts Editor

With tremendous boldness and musical command, the renowned Meridian Arts Ensemble surprised and challenged its audience with its boldly experimental program last Saturday night. Covering compositions ranging from the vintage sound of "Ocho por Radio," by Mexican composer Sylvestre Revueltas, to the modern, and playfully moving, "Moo Shoo Wrap Rap," by Professor of Music-Su Lian Tan, the six-piece brass ensemble not only exhibited its true musical expertise, but established its inspiringly progressive attitude towards contemporary music.

Courtesy

The Meridian Arts Ensemble exposed Middlebury audiences to a surprising mix of modern music.

Founded in 1987, the Meridian Arts Ensemble, consisting of John Ferrari (Drums), Daniel Grabois (Horn), Benjamin Herrington (Trombone), Brian McWhorter (Trumpet), Jon Nelson (Trumpet), and Raymond Stewart (Tuba), has performed extensively throughout the world, touring four continents and forty-nine states. Meridian's catalog now comprises eight critically acclaimed CD recordings on the Channel Classics label, with a ninth projected for 2007.

Meridian has commissioned and premiered over fifty new works, and has surfaced as one of the most important new music ensembles of the coming age.

Known for its eclecticism, the group features a wide variety of music, mixing classical and contemporary works, jazz and rock compositions, world music, and original works by Ensemble members. This musical experimentation was seen in their most recent concert at Middlebury—an aspect both embraced and objectionable to the audience.

"I was impressed that they brought such a formidable repertoire to their program," said junior Hannah Rommer, "though I think a lot of people in the audience were disappointed with the pieces, particularly in the first half. The publicity made it sound like they would play more jazz-fusion type stuff, and the modern commissioned pieces were a far cry from jazz." Featuring extremely modern pieces such as David Sanford's, "Corpus" (1997), Milton Babbitt's, "Counterparts" (1992), and Dafnis Prieto's "Echo Dimension" (2005), the musical program was infused with a challenging dissonance and rhythmic and temporal incongruity that made the music somewhat hard to relate to. Perhaps the program would have been more effective if more jazz or classical pieces that the audience could musically recognize were interspersed between the drastically modern selections.

However, the audience's patience and open-mindedness did not go unappreciated. Near the end of the concert, the horn player, Daniel Grabois spoke to the crowd in recognition of the challenging nature of the program and explained their particular musical decisions. "We are experimenters," he said, later thanking the listeners for, "sticking with us on this journey."

After this explanation, the audience seemed to become a bit more understanding of the concert's radical nature.

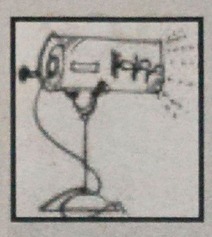
"The horn player is right, though, when he explained that 'Beethoven was new once'," stated Rommer, "I didn't relate to the music very well, but I am really glad that they're making a point of performing new works."

Despite the program's mixed reaction, there was no doubt as to the performers' musical prowess. "The musicians were obviously very talented," stated Rommer, "and even if you didn't like the music you could enjoy just watching these guys perform."

The musicians manipulated their instruments with obvious skill, stunning the audience with their ability to play with challenging rhythms, melodic passages, and the ensemble's musical interactions. The percussionist displayed exeptional transitional talent, switching from drums, to tambourine, to vibraphone with incredible ease.

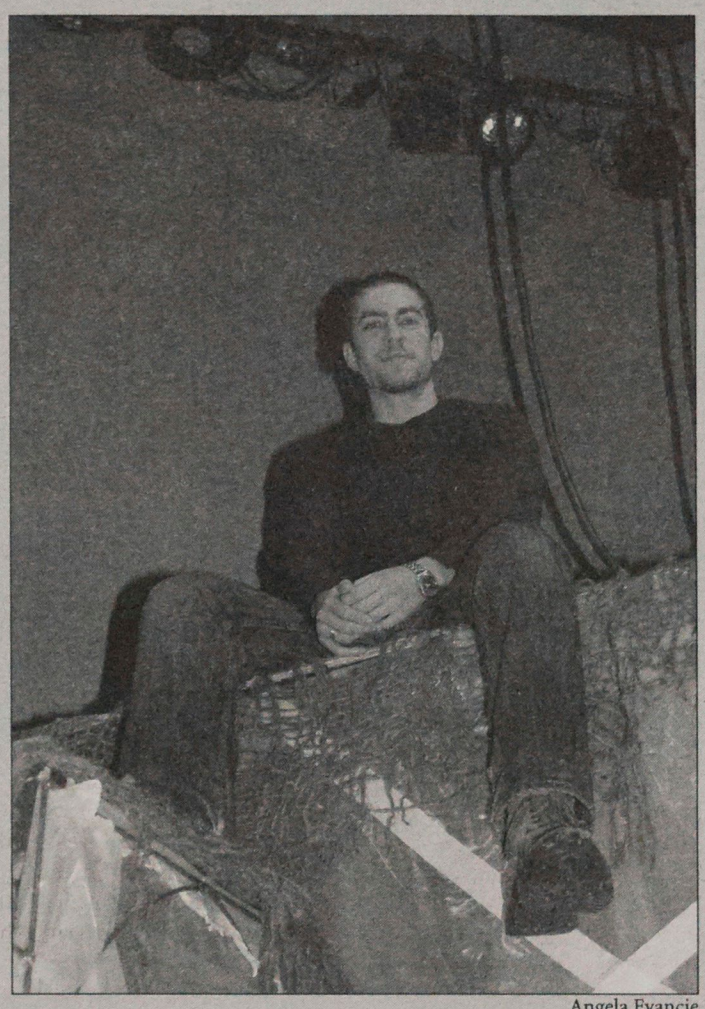
"I especially enjoyed 'Oblivion,' by Astor Piazzolla," commented Dorothy Mitchell '09. "For that piece, the percussionist moved from the drum set to the vibraphone, providing a very beautiful lyrical and rhythmic background for the rest of the brass players."

Overall, the concert was a rewarding, albeit challenging, experience. The Meridian Arts Ensemble proved their world-renowned status with the obvious skill and command of their instruments. By the end, and especially after Grabois's speech, the musical experimentation of their program became more inspiring than intolerable, and the audience came away from the performance with an expanded and enlightened view on the continually growing genre of modern music.



Spotlight on... Evan Dumouchel

There is something of the fairy-tale prince in Evan Dumouchel's face, a genuine sweetness that his scruffy cheeks, bad-boy swagger and love for action flicks can do nothing to subvert. His enchanting blue eyes are probably already familiar to you. As a double major in Theatre and Film, he appears frequently on stage and screen around campus. Dumouchel, who will be graduating this February, has left a distinguishable mark on the Middlebury art scene through his talented work onstage and behind the scenes. *The Campus* met with Evan Dumouchel, Middlebury actor and director extraordinaire.



Angela Evancie

***The Middlebury Campus*: Do you consider yourself an actor primarily?**

Evan Dumouchel: For a long time, I saw myself *only* as an actor. I didn't get into production until much later on when I realized there were a lot of other things I could do as well. I found that I got more respect from the theatre faculty as a director than I ever did as an actor.

***TC*: What's the difference between acting for the screen and the stage?**

ED: Film acting isn't easier, you can just make use of your skills in a different way. Like theatre acting, it should be a continuous piece inside of you, even if you don't perform it in a continuous way.

***TC*: Do you feel as though there is a conflict between your two majors?**

ED: The theatre department is like a tribe, a tribe of theatre people that really support each other. The film people are like nomads. Making movies on the Middlebury campus is a one-man show. Or, at most, a one-man-and-five-of-his-closest-friends-who-are-willing-to-die-for-him show. The theatre department tells you early on that in order to survive, you have to work together. The film department doesn't reinforce that. At Middlebury, the attitude is like this: you make movies for fun, but you live and breathe theatre. I think that's ridiculous.

***TC*: Are you trying to combine your two interests in your 700 Theatre project that is going up this J-term?**

ED: My 700 project is a play called, "On the Open Road," written by Steve Tesich. Last year, I took a class where we had to write a manifesto on what we think theatre should be. My manifesto, "The New Climax," was about how theatre would benefit from a full integration with film. Originally, I was going to realize this for my 700. I wanted to use multiple television screens, each projecting a different person's body part so that, when the screens were piled on top of each other in a certain way, it created the illusion of a whole human—like an entirely filmed character. I also wanted to integrate the screens as a visual component in the set. But just last night, I decided I wasn't going to be doing it after all. Too complicated. Too little time. And I'm a perfectionist, so I didn't want to do something that wasn't exactly as I wanted it.

***TC*: Your 500 project in film, a short entitled "Portraiture," which you both directed and starred in (together with friend Macleod Andrews), was screened on January 14th in Dana Auditorium. What was your vision?**

ED: On the page, it was an impossible screenplay. There was too much visual description without enough dialogue to back it up. The screenplay would never have been sellable. But I'm proud that I was able to tell the story despite that. Personally, I like to both watch and make testosterone-infused movies. They have so much masculine vs. feminine energy, so many polar emotional values that work well on film. It's not because of the blood and guns that I like them, it's because they lend themselves to extreme emotion.

***TC*: What about the future?**

ED: I would love to move to LA and work on an HBO miniseries. I don't want to be a celebrity. Then again, I want to be respected, like Matt Damon or Dustin Hoffman — quality actors. But I don't want to be a celebrity just for the sake of it. That is a scary thought.

-Astri von Arbin Ahlander

VACA Gallery: New Space, New Art

Chris Heinrich

A group of students gathered in the basement of Adirondack House on Friday afternoon to view the artwork of Emily Lee '07, Brett Foreman '08 (both of whom attended University College London's Slade School of Art last year) and others while christening the installation of the Yellow Bike Shop, organized by Hubert d'Autremont '07, in the space. The event was organized by VACA (Vitality of the Artistic Community Association) and served as an opportunity to merge the sometimes divergent worlds of token Middlebury outdoorness and the sometimes less apparent Middlebury art life. Rachael Carrasquillo '09, who together with Foreman is co-president of VACA, would like to let students know that the organization is seeking submissions and will be organizing a gallery in lower Forest in the spring.

for the record

by Melissa Marshall

Since man first banged those two stones together to create sound, music has been an integral part of praising something greater than one's self. Since then, rock music has evolved quite a bit from its humble beginnings, but it is still somewhat surprising to witness the adverse reaction people have to a song when they find out that the lyrics contain Christian connotations. Why the stigma associated with the stigmata?

I must confess that I am also guilty of "hipster hypochondria" — the irrational fear that endorsing any music that has affiliation with "the man" (whether he be corporate or consecrated) will undoubtedly infect the rest of your music collection, and one day you'll wake-up wearing Dockers listening to Nickelback on repeat in your Ford Focus. Why is it that liking Christian rock is almost as blasphemous as declaring *Good News for People Who Like Bad News* your favorite Modest Mouse album? Granted there is a certain level of awkwardness attached to praising the Virgin Mary while partying with Mary Jane, but even the whole bad-boy image associated with rock n' roll is giving way to the more conservative, skinny, white boy who wears thick-rimmed glasses more as spectacle than spectacles. However, a few lambs snuck in amongst the Wolf Parade, and these artists may even convert the firmest doubting Thomas into the most devout disciple.

God said, "Let there be light, "and there appeared *Hello, Dear Wind*, Baltimore-based Page France's second full-length album. *Hello, Dear Wind* is truly a breath of fresh air and a beacon of light in the indie-rock scene. Its one-word song-titles are indicative of the simplicity of the tracks which rely on the tambourine and steady drum beats, creating a sense of peace usually reserved for cloudless days in March. However, it is only upon a closer listen that one can distinguish the Christian references through Michael Nau's geeky vocals. Still, the band has been branded "Christian" mostly due to the kingpin of pretension, Pitchfork Media's, review of the album, a "review" which focused almost exclusively on the songs' religious imagery. However, Nau countered, "The 'Christian band' inquiry wears me out, to be honest. As for the Christian symbols in my writing — sometimes I don't even realize that they exist until someone points them out to me. There's really no reason; it just rolled out that way." So just let it roll. Actually, let in spin — in the car, in your room, on your walk to class — for any way you put it, *Hello, Dear Wind* is transcendental.

Although The Wailin' Jennys' sophomore release may be more whispers than bangs, *Firecracker* is hauntingly nostalgic and surprisingly powerful. A mixture of hope and reflection, this Canadian Trio has released a folk album that is Christian but not evangelical. For even though there are definite theological tones in the tracks, especially with regard to the afterlife, the intertwining of string arrangements, aching guitar chords, and pure vocals create a sense of divinity that is completely non-denominational.

And this finally brings us to the head of the Holy Trinity of discreet Christian rock: Sufjan Stevens. This indie darling born from the Midwest folk scene filled critics with awe and wonder with his ambitious plan to make an album for each of the fifty states. And his first two attempts — *Greetings from Michigan: The Great Lakes State* (2003) and *Illinois* (2005) both seem driven by something ethereal. Although his 2004 release, *Seven Swans*, is perhaps the most powerful in terms of religious undertones, all of his work seems to give props to the man upstairs upon closer inspection. In an interview with the aforementioned music site, Pitchfork Media, he commented on the less-than-tolerant attitude many music aficionados have towards Christian artists. "I think an enlightened person is capable, on some level, of making the distinction between the institution of the culture and the culture itself. The institution of Christianity, the way that it's set up, it's institutionalized and commodified, and anytime that happens, anytime it's incorporated, it leads to disaster."

Regally Blonde

by Astri von Arbin Ahlander

Episode VII: Real Starvation

This past summer, I read the writer David Shield's manifesto, "Reality Hunger," which argues in favor of contemporary society's ever increasing hunger for "the real," whether through non-fiction writing, documentary film, reality TV, etc. As individuals flooded on an hourly basis with narrative, we are expert readers, interpreters and storytellers. But with increasing uncertainty, inequality and dissatisfaction in the world, we're growing tired of fairy tales. And now we feel an overpowering desire to grab onto shared experiences, to real stories lived by real people. Drowning in a flood of fiction, there seems to be a new appetite for reality. Whatever "reality" is.

This weekend, I went to the production of *When I Was a Child*, directed by Ted Perry, a professor in the Film and Media Culture Program who has lived a life filled with intriguing stories. Coincidentally, Ted Perry was also in David Shield's workshop with me this summer, where we read and discussed the manifesto together. My thoughts traced back to our discussions as I sat in the Hepburn Zoo on Friday night and let myself be carried off into the world on stage. The production explored the idea of the memory of wartime childhood, and the style of the piece was as fragmented as the subject matter. The play was effective because it was based on a tangible reality, rooted in the experiences of the writers and director, but also of the cast. Rather than presenting a fictional story about a historical event and engaging our attention through a captivating narrative, the production, thanks to its highly interpretative, emotionally evocative and causally disarming strategy, momentarily transported us back to that reality, recreating it in real time as the show unfurled. The sense of entering into a moment of remembered time was heightened by the use of experimental videos projected onto the walls. The videos served simultaneously as a backdrop and as the central story, but most of all it grounded the performance in a musty reality. They served as a door ajar to a collection of memories, through which the audience was invited to peak, and perhaps to enter.

Last night, I was at a party when, as the clock drew upon the early morning hours, a game of spin the bottle was initiated. The communal desire to play a game belonging to the darkened closets and locked bedrooms of our middle school days fascinated me. As I watched the squealing crowd throw itself into the game with flushed anticipation, it struck me that this too is rooted in a hunger for the real. In the subconscious belief that by re-living a ritual experienced years ago we can, for an instant, recall that memory as a visceral re-telling of our past. Much like the emotional response to *When I Was a Child*, the game became a moment of personal history lived again in a communal forum. The game was not only a product of that particular night, but was trailing clouds of memory, each with their own individual connotations from the games of the players' past. Having had some less favorable spin-the-bottle incidents in the cloakroom of the New York Loyola School's basement in the mid-nineties, I chose to pull away from the game rather quickly. Suddenly, reality became a little bit too real.

Winter term gets a little "Sweder"

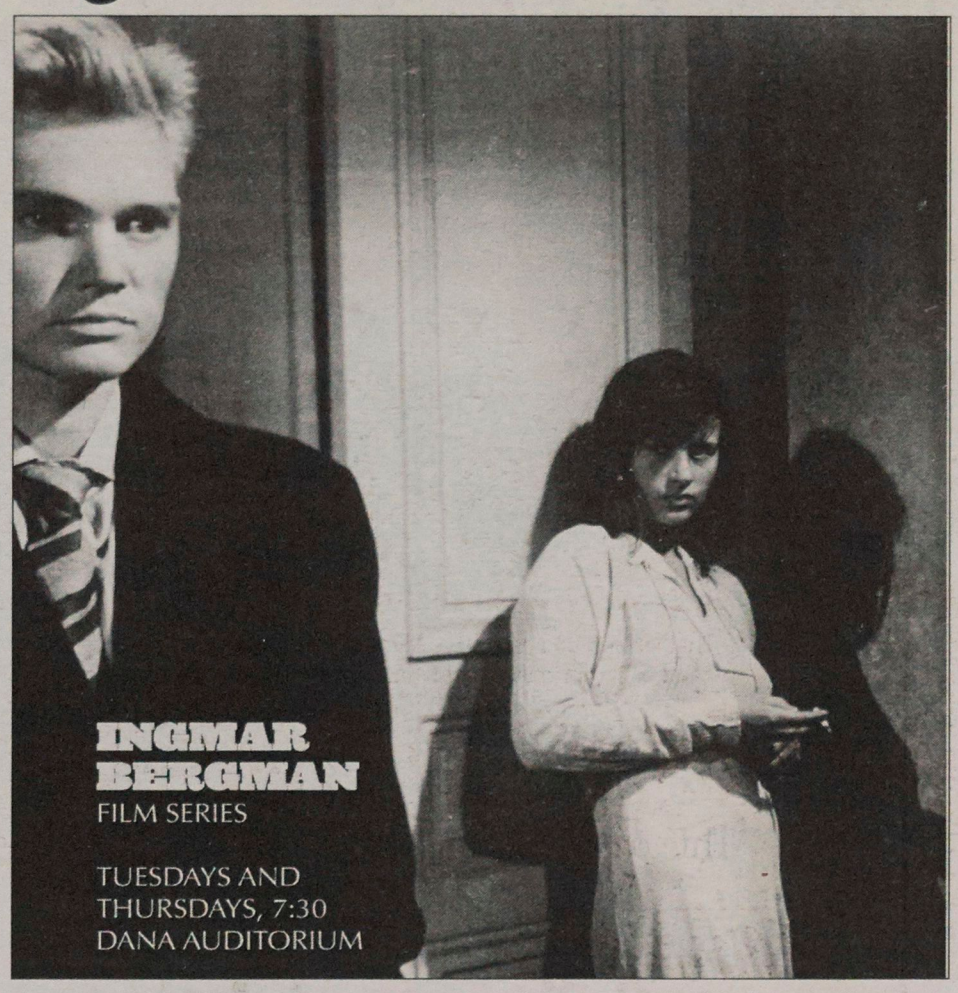
By Sarah Shaikh
Staff Writer

The Ingmar Bergman film series sponsored by Brainerd Commons, the Scandinavian Student Organization and the Film and Media Culture Program has brought the best of Swedish Culture and Film into a month long adventure. The series began on January 6 with one of Bergman's most famous films, "Summer With Monika", and has been a huge success.

Ingmar Bergman is one of the most influential contributors to modern cinema. His work has won numerous awards and accolades from the international film community. The series is the brain child of Astri von Arbin Ahlander, a senior film major and a former co-president of the Scandinavian Student Organization. Since she arrived at Middlebury three years ago, von Arbin Ahlander has continually strived to bring Swedish culture to campus. She has always wanted to expose Middlebury to one of the great Swedish film personas. "I could not graduate without having a tribute to Bergman," said von Arbin Ahlander.

Filip Odquist '07, president of the Scandinavian Student Organization and a sponsor of the month long event, affirmed the importance of von Arbin Ahlander's efforts. "The Scandinavian Students Organization sponsored the Bergman film series in the interest of promoting a different facet of Swedish culture. While most students recognize trademarks such as IKEA, H&M and Absolut Vodka, few know of Sweden's rich cinematic history and culture. The organization hopes that the film series sparks both an interest in Swedish Cinema and a curiosity of Scandinavian culture." Fellow Swede and co-president Sebastian Paulsson '09.5 reiterated this point. "I think it is a great opportunity for other students at Middlebury College to see some of the great things Sweden has to offer in the realm of film and obviously Ingmar Bergman is one of the most influential people in that realm," stated Paulsson.

When she initially proposed the series, von Arbin Ahlander met with much skepticism. "Many were worried that attendance at the screening would be sparse during J-term," said von Arbin Ahlander. Yet, since the inaugural screening at the beginning of the term, all the screenings have been well attended by a combination of students, faculty and members of the wider Middlebury community.

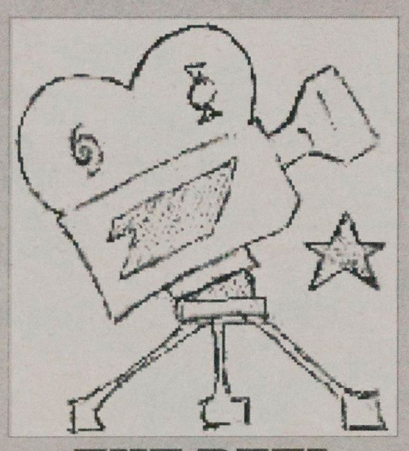


Many students have become "regulars" at these screenings and have taken an active interest in learning more about Bergman. These students have reveled in the opportunity for a new cultural and intellectual experience.

"As a non-film major, I think it is important to see the origin of modern films and the way these films emulate the classical masters. The caliber of intellectual stimulation Bergman films evoke is much higher than that of modern films," said Will Martin '07.5. Similarly, Thomas Heitkamp '06.5, supported these sentiments: "All we ever do is watch American cinema on this campus, and I was excited to try something knew, even though I came to Bergman with a some what sub-optimal opinion after seeing his film 'Cries and Whispers.' Seeing the development of his film portfolio has been really valuable and has given me a new appreciation for Bergman and 'Cries and Whispers,' a film that I had initially disliked. It has been really nice to be able to contextualize Bergman's work in the world of film."

The next film in the repertoire, "Franny and Alexander," showing in Dana Auditorium on January 25th, is what Bergman had claimed would be his last big film for the silver screen. This internationally renowned film tells the story of two children, Franny and Alexander. After their father dies, their mother remarries a stern and tyrannical bishop. The children seek refuge in the strange household of their grandmother's lover, the Jewish merchant Isak. "This movie is a portrait of Swedish society at the turn of the turn twentieth century."

"As a film major having a class that focuses on one director has been very interesting. You are really able to see the development of the filmmaker through his or her portfolio," said von Arbin Ahlander. The success of this series has encouraged the film department to organize similar showcases for future J-terms, which will focus on a specific artist.



THE REEL CRITIC

by Josh Wessler

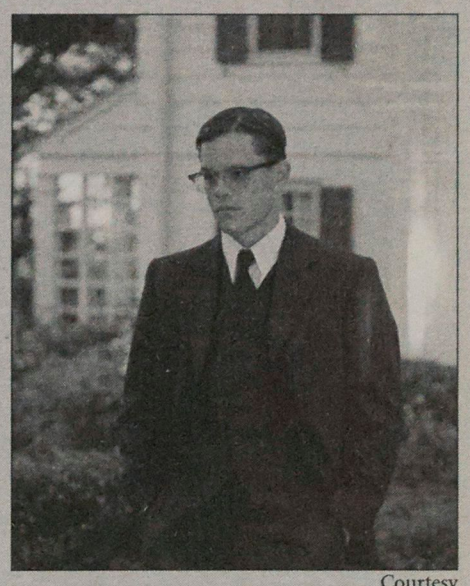
MOVIE | The Good Shepherd
DIRECTOR | Robert De Niro
STARRING | Matt Damon, Alec Baldwin, Angelina Jolie

Most would say that this is what we've all been waiting for: an intelligent CIA movie. But it's easy to mix up a confusing and overwhelming structure for intelligence and artistic design. If, going into the movie, you weren't aware that this film is about the birth of the American espionage community, screenwriter Eric Roth hopes that a tangled plot will drive the point home. The problem ultimately is not that the movie is sloppily done, or that it is confusing, but that it is so busy making the past believable in today's world that we stop believing in the movie altogether.

With such a cast lined up, one might hope that some solid performances could revive the movie. Matt Damon falls flat as Edward Wilson, the stolid spook who goes from bookish Yalie to jaded confidant in the elite hierarchy of the early Central Intelligence Agency. He doesn't say much, and while this has certain power in movies like Apocalypse Now (where Martin Sheen's brooding presence absorbed the horrors of Vietnam), Edward's lack of social aptitude is mistaken for solid character. We come away thinking we should be admiring this man when we should be wondering why these silent, empty vessels are secretly orchestrating this country's national security program.

In fact, the movie does want us to think about the historical details of America's foreign policy. Indeed, the political implications are interesting, with hints at the disastrous wake of the CIA's bloody entanglements in Latin America. The reported deception surrounding the attacks five years ago and the buildup to the Iraqi war are fitting contexts for this study of the men behind the scenes (and they are largely men with the important decisions to make while the women cower in the kitchen). But all these political ruminations seem to be mainly afterthoughts. Critical to understanding the CIA's politics are those of the men who helped establish the Agency. Yet, the closest we get to understanding what drives Edward and his cohorts is the discovery that his poetry professor turned out to be a Nazi sympathizer. Remember, Edward's mentors tell him repeatedly: trust no one. But it's easy to not trust anyone in this movie since we never get to know them initially

It's a shame to waste the considerable talent contained within the ranks of this cast and crew on such a bloated piece (at over two and a half hours, you begin to marvel at how little



Courtesy

was accomplished). When critics herald this movie as anything but confusing, they miss an important opportunity to reject the current trend of dull, regressive movies posing as art. Film as a tool is undergoing a new surge as a democratic medium with the prevalence of high-quality personal cameras and the means of international distribution on the web. But this dissemination should not impede the continual development of cinematic techniques. "The Good Shepherd" fails to embody the confusion and deception of espionage and America's troubled past with international intelligence. It tells us what happened, but this is insufficient to put us in the moment. Director Robert De Niro (who also has a role as Edward's puppet-master) thinks he knows how to reach the viewer, but he might better convince us of this if he stays in front of the camera's eye and out of director's chair.

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Bball was a slam dunk at home, an air-ball on road

By Jeff Klein
Staff Writer

After this last weekend, the Middlebury men's basketball team finds itself on a dangerous and familiar road. Faced with two critical NESCAC games at Amherst and Trinity, the Panthers suffered two defeats by scores of 79-73 and 82-67.

While the team still has plenty of NESCAC action left, these losses conjure up memories of last season. Last year's squad entered NESCAC play with a 10-3 record, but struggled mightily the rest of the way, finishing with a 1-8 record against NESCAC opponents. As a result, they missed the playoffs.

But this year's team is not ready to push the panic button yet. "I think once everyone heals from various injuries and sickness, we'll bounce back," said Aaron Smith '09. "We learned a lot this weekend and we know what we have to do to beat the top teams in the NESCAC."

In the game against second-ranked Amherst, the Panthers put forth a valiant effort but fell short in the end. The game featured multiple swings of momentum, as several times the Lord Jeffs would open up a sizeable lead only to have the Panthers battle back. Middlebury got within a single point in the second half, trailing 60-59 with 8:12 remaining, but that was as close as the team would get.

According to Andrew Harris '08, who netted 11 points in the game, "the loss was very disappointing because we had a great opportunity to knock off a highly ranked team."

Harris believes that establishing and maintaining the transition game is crucial if the team wants to take itself to an elite level. "When we get to the point where we can dominate the tempo of a game, so that we force our opponents to match our fast pace style, we will have matured to the point where we can contend for the NESCAC championship," he said. He added that while the team at times had success pushing the tempo against Amherst, "we need to maintain this pace throughout the game in order to beat the best teams in our league."

Still, some players were encouraged by the performance they displayed against such a high-caliber opponent. The fact that the Panthers kept battling back against Amherst and almost pulled off an exceedingly difficult road victory demonstrated the team's confidence in its abilities, according to Evan Thompson '07. Thompson felt that the game could have gone either way.

"It came down to a few plays over the course of the game where if they had gone in our favor, might have produced a different end result to the game," said Thompson.

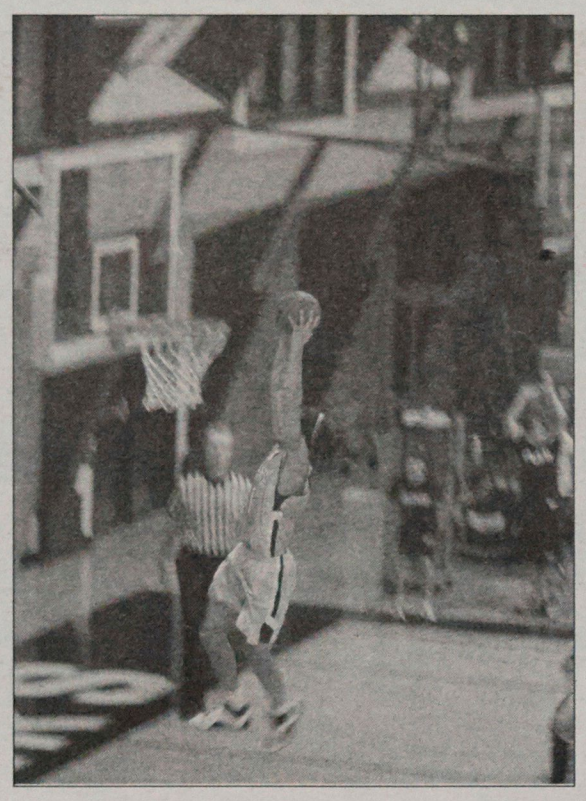
The following day against Trinity, the Panthers displayed little of the promise they had shown against the Jeffs, as they fell to the Bantams by their second largest margin of the season. Middlebury's sluggish start put them in a 21-7 deficit only eight and a half minutes into the game. Trailing 45-28 at intermission, the Panthers were able to claw their way back in the second half, getting within five at the 3:37 mark, but it proved to be too little too late.

Asked what was most responsible for the team's loss, Smith said, "We were unable to get easy points in transition or get critical stops down the stretch. We dug a big hole for ourselves and although we made a run in the second half, we just did not play our best for 40 minutes."

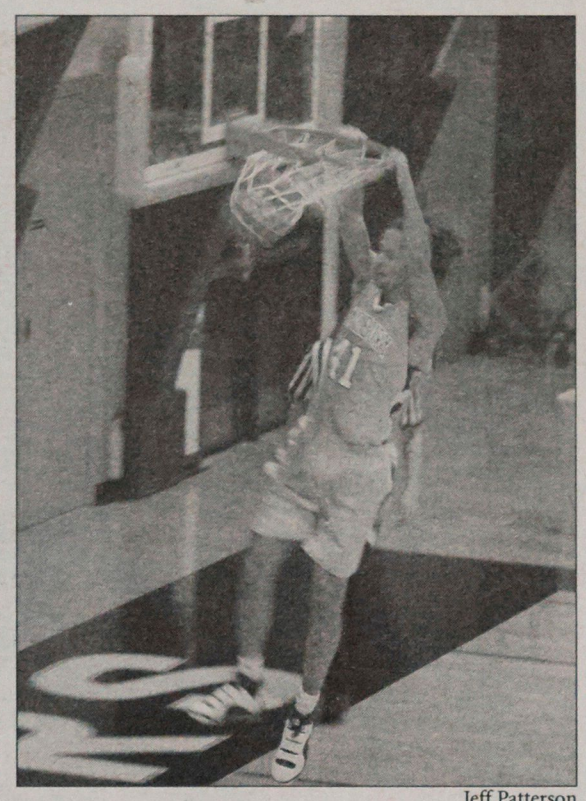
Ben Ehrlich '09 was blunt when speaking of the team's lackluster, uninspired performance.

"We came out flat against Trinity, with no energy," said Ehrlich. "To say we were exhausted from a close, emotionally draining game the night before is a cop out."

As the season winds down and the stakes grow higher, the Panthers know that they must play their absolute best through the entire duration of each game if they are to have the postseason success they envision for themselves. And, according to Ehrlich, the team's expectations are flying through the roof.



Evan Thompson '07 eyes the rim as time is running out.



Jeff Patterson
The dunk tallies his 23rd and 24th points vs. Colby.

Chris Heinrich
Johnson '09 makes a free-throw with 15.5 seconds left to secure the victory.

Young's double-double troubled Trinity

Continued from page 24

in the Lord Jeff's victory.

Middlebury returned to Pepin Gymnasium less than 18 hours after their defeat to Amherst in hopes of returning to .500 in conference play with a solid, fundamental game. The Panthers delivered just that in a team effort against Trinity, shooting consistently and hustling for loose balls. Middlebury made thirteen shots both in the first and the second half.

Three minutes into the second half Middlebury surged ahead to make it 40-24, but foul trouble plagued the Panthers, and their lead. Aylie Baker '09, Middlebury's strongest presence inside, got her third foul as the lead was at its biggest and Coach Noreen Pecsok was forced to sit Baker for ten minutes. Lani Young '08, however, did her best to fill the void inside by playing what was arguably her best game of the season. In the loss Young recorded a double-double: 17 points and 12 rebounds, five of which came on the offensive end.

The aggressive play of Katie Fisher '08 and Ashley Barron '09 provided the spark and energy that has fueled the Middlebury basketball team all season. Barron, who was involved in a collision late in the first half, walked to the locker room with her foot wrapped, but she was back on the court after the break and played most of the final 20 minutes.

For Trinity, star Sarah Cox played an immense game. She was on the court for all 40 minutes in the loss, finishing with a double-double on 29 points and ten rebounds.

Nevertheless, ten of those points came in a flourish in the last five minutes which ultimately proved to be in vain.

Pecsok used her bench effectively, splitting time — and 15 points — among sixth-woman Kelleher and captains Carlie Harrington '07 and Dana Weissman '07. Forward Kaitlyn Fallon '10 also contributed four points off of two inside buckets.

The weekend's games move Middlebury to 10-6 on the season and 2-2 in conference play. The Panthers will host the Keene State Owls on Tuesday night before traveling to northwest Massachusetts to take on the highly-touted Williams Ephs on Saturday.

MIDDLEBURY POWER RANKINGS

Rank	12/7	Team	Simon Says...
1	1	W. Hockey (11-1-1)	Women's hockey validates their ranking by beating two top-ten teams, #8 Utica, 4-2, and # 10 R.I.T, 3-1.
2	2	Swimming & Diving	Even with another win, swimmers are swimming upstream against the current no. one ranked team.
3	8	Skiing	Skiiers take the chairlift up to third in the rankings with third place finish at the St. Michael's Carnival.
4	5	Men's Hockey (9-6-1)	Will the reemergence of Big & Rich's "Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy" save their so far sub-par season?
5	4	W. Basketball (10-6)	No back-to-back wins since Dec. 9 means back-to-back weeks falling in the rankings.
6	3	M. Basketball (11-5)	After nine wins in a row, two conference losses make me hope they are not reliving last year's woes.
7	7	Indoor Track	They win six events while taking on two D-I schools, but also have their point total doubled by UVM.
8	6	W. Squash (4-4)	Chance to move up in the rankings halted, just like their bus to Hamilton this past Saturday.

Jeff Patterson
Shannon Tarrant '07 scored her fourth goal of the season against R.I.T.

Mike Bayersdorfer

Brett Shirreffs '07 streaks by the N.E.C. bench on Friday. The Pilgrims out-numbered Midd on the scoreboard, too.

Hockey rocks the Hawks 3-2, again

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

puck was finally dropped the game saw seven goals, the final one coming with seven seconds remaining as N.E.C.'s number 17 Mike Carmody scored his seventh goal of the season to win the game 4-3.

As the third period was about to expire, Captain Mickey Gilchrist '08 tried to make an end-to-end rush, but was met at center ice and lost control of the puck. Carmody took possession, skated down the left side, and deposited the recently stolen puck into Cherry's net. The Pilgrims were thankful for the turnover and used the win to move into sole possession of second place in the ECAC East standings.

Gilchrist and the first line had been out on the ice for a minute and six seconds when the turnover happened. As it was their last shift of the game, it is fair to speculate that this line may have been too tired to perform like they needed to. Any hockey fan will tell you that 45 seconds is the ideal time for a shift, but given the circumstances there was no opportunity to make a line-change. "We're playing our best when everyone has short shifts," said Kinder. Don't give it short shrift this was not a short shift.

As a result, a conscientious comeback went for naught. Down 1-0 after one period, Rob MacIntyre '08 threaded the puck at the 14:44 mark of the second period through the crease and found Sam Driver '07 alone on the far post and with an open net on which to shoot. After Pat Mellino put the Pilgrims up 2-1 Charlie Townsend '10 scored 1:36 later to knot the game at two apiece. Mike Mullen put NEC up 3-2, but the Panthers tied the score 23 seconds later when number 23 MacIntyre scored on a feed from Sales.

In the game, Jamie McKenna '09 received a game misconduct for hitting from behind — the third ejection the Panthers have had this year. All three have resulted in losses. "All referees are crunching down on [penalties] this year, especially hitting from behind," said Gilchrist. "We've got to be a little smarter when a guy shows his back, we have to let up a little more."

Middlebury	3
St. Anselm	2

Gilchrist more than made up for his turnover the following afternoon as he scored two goals, the 55th and 56th of his career, turning over a new leaf in a 3-2 win over St. Anselm. He opened up the scoring when, noticing that he was open around the net — something that does not happen very often — he raised his stick to get Sales' attention and one-timed his pass into the goal. At the 11:06 mark of the third period, Gilchrist scored after skating by a diving defender and beating helpless netminder Jason Rafuse.

"I just saw the defenseman overplayed my linemate [John] Sullivan '10," said Gilchrist when describing the game-winning goal. "He went down and I looked him off and I kind of laid it in the net. I got my shot off right before [another defenseman] hit me. Luckily it didn't affect the shot. That guy was just a little too late, I guess."

The win over St. Anselm was the seventh one-goal game Middlebury has been involved in this season. "The reason for a lot of the close games is that when we get the lead we have trouble finishing teams off," said Kinder. "Where last year we'd get the momentum off of a goal and have another good shift and just pour it on and overwhelm teams, this year we tend to let them come back in the game a little bit."

Saidachev thinks the close games will help the team in the long run. "Down the stretch you're not going to win a game 5-0, or 8-2, it's going to be a close game and you have to learn how to win those," he said.

Kinder kind of agrees. "Yeah, I think it's good to practice and to be comfortable in tight games," he said. "We've had to grit it out in the third period a bunch this year. But there are a lot of things we can to do to open it up."

Carnival season begins

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

place in the GS behind UVM, led by Dorothy Muirhead '08 with a sixth place effort. What is most impressive is that Muirhead was the 42nd racer to come down the pitch and faced a vastly different course than the top racers. With two consistent runs, Mattie Ford '09 finished 11th while first-year Leah McLaughry was right behind in 12th.

Over at Sleepy Hollow, the venue for the Nordic events, the women won the 5K Free while the men placed second in the 10K behind Dartmouth. New snow was a godsend, blanketing the course and making it easier for all involved. The race was an open carnival, meaning teams raced their entire squads, something that will not be the case next week. Captain Jenny Hamilton '07 led the Panthers, with a second place effort. Next was Cassidy Edwards '09 in fourth while Robyn Anderson '09 and Claire Luby '10 tied for seventh.

On the men's side, Tim Reynolds '09 was the top Panther in fifth place followed by Simi Hamilton '09 in sixth. Matthew Johnson '08 rounded out Middlebury with a 17th place showing.

Both teams struggled to duplicate the overall performance Saturday as weather played a major factor. For the alpine team, the fickle nature of slalom proved difficult, as a few Panthers did not finish their runs due to course conditions. The weather was also a strong factor. Six inches of snow had been deposited on the course the night before, and extremely cold temperatures, high winds and at times white-out conditions existed, adding to the difficulty.

The Nordic skiers also had a challenging day. Dartmouth blew away the competition winning both the men's and women's sprint relays while the Middlebury men finished in third and the women fourth. The women also suffered because the conditions made it a struggle to properly prepare the skis for the event. Ski tuning is a science that is tough to master, and selecting the proper wax is crucial for success.

At Sleepy Hollow, the women's 3x3 sprint relay team of Jenny Hamilton, Edwards and Anderson finished in fourth place. The men skied better, but were unable to overcome a dominant Dartmouth relay team. Johnson, Simi Hamilton and Reynolds carried the Panthers to a third place showing.

The alpine women were the only ones to experience success on Saturday as they placed four skiers in the top eight to win the slalom in convincing fashion. Ford finished second while McLaughry was fourth. Captain Lindsay Brush '07 skied smoothly to a seventh place finish followed right behind by Krissie Poehling '08. It is clear that the women have what it takes to dominate in the alpine events, and will receive a boost this weekend when NCAA Champion Megan Hughes '08 returns from competing in the 2007 FIS World University Games in Bardonnechia, Italy.

The men were not so lucky. After a sixth place first run, Captain Andrew Everett '07 failed to finish his second run as his ski ejected after skiing into a rut caused by deteriorating conditions from the man-made snow. Wagner, fourth after the first run, experienced difficulty at the top half of his second run and did not score for the Panthers. Slalom specialist Clayton Reed '08 showed promising form after returning from an injury and led the Panthers with a fifth place finish. Davisson finished 11th while Tarberry was 15th.

After a week of training, the Panthers head to North Conway, N.H., to compete in the University of New Hampshire Carnival. The alpine events will take place at Attitash, while the Nordic team will compete at Jackson XC Center. Both sites will also host the 2007 NCAA Championships. According to Davisson, "We're going down with a great sense of confidence in how we're skiing. We're going to ski every weekend expecting to win."

editor's picks

Questions of the week:	*Geoff Homer*	*Simon Keyes*	*Jeff Patterson*
When the women's squash team hosts No. 19 Vassar on Jan. 28, which team will win more points?	MIDDLEBURY I am scared of Hannah Baker. More so when she has a squash racquet in hand.	MIDDLEBURY The only good thing about squash courts in the bubble is that the Panthers are used to it. Vassar will not know how to play on our freezing cold and slow courts.	MIDDLEBURY Even though the Panthers are ranked last in this week's Power Rankings, they are still a powerful team. They will squash Vassar against our home court walls.
Who will win the NHL All-Star game tonight?	EAST Does anyone care about pro hockey any more? Will anyone watch tonight? Regardless, Sid the Kid and the fair-skinned Russian Ovechkin promise to dazzle.	EAST Putting Sidney Crosby, Alex Ovechkin and Dany Heatly on the same team is like Spiderman, Superman and Batman allying together to beat a villain.	WEST Former Bruins Joe Thornton, Bill Guerin and Brian Rolston will ride the (Jonathan) Cheechoo train to victory. They (Martin) Havlat of good players.
What team will be leading at halftime of Super Bowl XLI?	BEARS There are few things that I hate in life: people who drive slow, onions and Peyton Manning and the Indianapolis Colts.	COLTS The Bears should be more concerned that their score at the half will be more than the number of picks Rex Grossman throws.	COLTS How are the Bears going to be ahead at halftime, when they are not going to score during the entire game?
record:	**15-17 (.469)**	**0-0 (.000)**	**14-18 (.438)**

As Told by A.S.

By Andrew Schlegel

Recently, Swiss sensation Roger Federer has dominated the men's Association of Tennis Professionals. With a snub from *Sports Illustrated's* Sportsman of the Year, he must be asking himself, "What more can I do?"

Last year, Federer reached the finals of all four grand slams, winning three while losing the French Open to the Spanish clay-court star Rafael Nadal.

Considering that an American has not reached the final of the Australian Open since '03 when Andre Agassi beat Arnaud Clement, U.S. hopes of winning are not running particularly high.

Additionally, Nadal and Federer's current dominance in grand slam play casts a big shadow over the strong American talents. Nadal has won the last two French Opens, while Federer has won four straight U.S. Opens, three straight Wimbledons and two of the last three Australian Opens.

The recent strong play and high expectations for top-seeded American James Blake ended abruptly. He fell in straight sets to Chilean ten seed Fernando Gonzalez, 7-5, 6-4, 7-6 (4) in the fourth round. Before the loss, Blake had been on a tear — he had not lost a set all tournament.

With Blake gone, the U.S. hopeful seems to be Andy Roddick. He has been playing some of his best tennis recently after firing his old coach and signing one of his idols, Jimmy Connors. Since this coaching change took place last summer, Roddick has been a force to reckon with, reaching the finals of the '06 U.S. Open.

In the Australian Open, the six seed Roddick has had some tough matches up to this point. He defeated '05 Australian Open champion Marat Safin in four sets and the nine seed Mario Ancic in five sets after that.

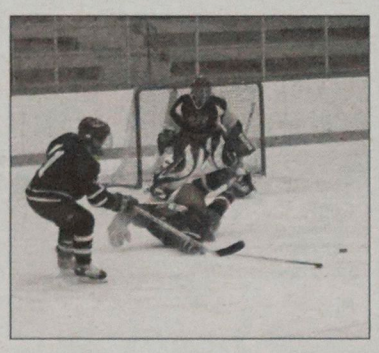
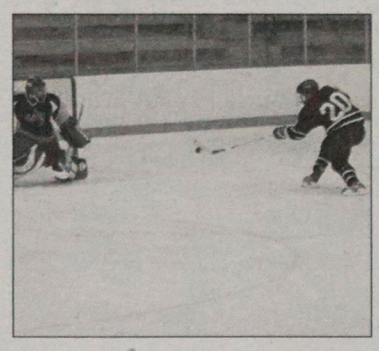
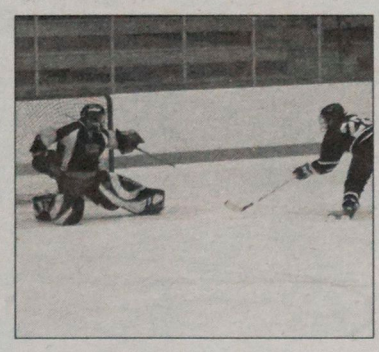
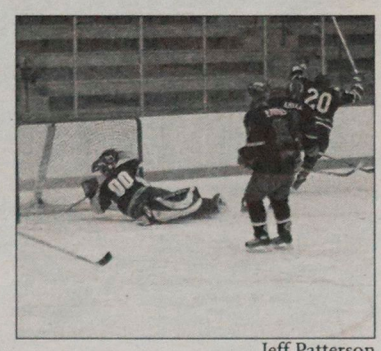
The other remaining American is Mardy Fish, who is also playing some of the best tennis of his career. Fish has not played any particularly draining matches yet, but has managed to defeat some talented players, namely the four seed Ivan Ljubicic and the 16 seed David Ferrer.

In the quarterfinals, Mardy Fish and Andy Roddick will face off, meaning that there is a guarantee of an American reaching the semifinals. This quarterfinal match is already Fish's career best result for a grand slam, and he will only look to improve.

Since there are two Americans left in the Australian Open, there is still hope for a U.S. player to win, though it does not look good.

With Rafael Nadal playing sharp tennis in his sharp outfits and Roger Federer riding a 33 consecutive-win streak, the odds are down against an American winning Down Under.

Dawson notches his first career win as a head coach

Jeff Patterson

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would just "follow the norms."

Even at the end of his four years of college he was not set on what he wanted to do. When he sought advice, the people he asked suggested that he work on Wall Street. "There are a lot of former athletes there," they said, "and it's really competitive." But Wall Street was not for him.

"It wasn't something I wanted to do long term," Dawson said. "I don't think it was the right fit for me. I think being involved with and helping younger people achieve their goals in a hockey sense is much more beneficial for me and suits me better."

Instead of a suit, Dawson is wearing a yellow tie, a sky blue button down shirt and a charcoal colored fleece behind the JV team's bench. Middlebury is playing the Green Mountain Glades of the Eastern Junior Hockey League, the same organization that beat the U.S. Women's Olympic hockey team 8-6 a year and earlier in a scrimmage before they won the bronze medal in Torino. On the back of each Glades' players' jersey, below their surname and number is a patch bearing the logo and slogan of their sponsor, Windjammer, "an upper deck pub."

Dawson has come full-circle since the time he was in the upper deck at the world's most famous arena, and the reason is none other than a hockey puck. On that Thursday night just over a year ago, Dawson listened to former Ranger teammates talk about Messier's legendary generosity, and watched number 11 get raised up to the rafters and closer and closer towards him. He realized that he had to get back into sports.

"Coach Beaney and I had talked about coming back [as an assistant coach], but I thought it was too soon to come back after graduation," said Dawson. With two years having passed since Dawson's commencement, he was not going to pass on this offer any longer.

Jeff Patterson

Dawson gives a pointer to Sam Driver '08 in practice.

He realized that his love of sports could not be suppressed. Growing up in Connecticut, Dawson was always out in the neighborhood playing pick-up games. "Mom had no idea where I was 95 percent of the time," he said. "She would ring the dinner bell and I'd find my way back."

Now Dawson has found his way back to Middlebury — perhaps Mead Chapel's bells had something to do with it — and his JV players appreciate having a coach who knows what they are going through as they face the challenges of a Middlebury education. "He definitely understands if people have to miss practice," said Shane Spinell '08.5. "He knows what goes on here." Practice times are communicated through e-mail. "Our times vary," said Spinell, "We find out that day when practice is."

Since the men's varsity team has a game against Williams, the day before the game with the Glades, the JV team does not get out on the ice to practice until 9:49 p.m. After just about everyone has left the rink, the JV players go through drills and finish practice with a shoot-out. Spinell skates in and scores on his first try only to be denied on his second attempt by goalie Kent Cabatingan '07. The practice will pay off in the next day's game. Just wait until the end.

During the game, Dawson told a lot of his players (just like he did Baumann) — seven, to be exact, over the course of 11 penalties — whether he wanted them back on the ice or to come to the bench after they served their penalty time. At one juncture four players waited simultaneously in the penalty box together. It was cozy, with Kyle Koziara '09, Richie Fuld '07, Garrett Salpeter '08 and Shane Spinell '08 in there all at once.

Even playing a man or two down for most of the second half (a JV game consists of two 25 minute halves, as opposed to three 20 minute periods), the Panthers won 4-3. Middlebury had jumped out to a 2-0 lead, only to have the penalties penalize them. With 3:54 remaining the Glades scored to take the lead 3-2.

With only 44.1 seconds left Jeff Schneider '07 scored the tying goal. Seconds later, Spinell, who admits to "not really know[ing] that there was a JV team, a couple of guys on the team talked me into it, 'come down,' you know," received a pass from Bobby Ocampo '07 (see below) and beat the goaltender high to the stick side.

The Glades did not have enough time to mount a comeback and Coach Dawson recorded his first career win as the head JV hockey coach. In the team's first three games — losses to the Boston Bulldogs, St. Paul's and Hudson Valley Community College — the team, according to Spinell, "was not together." But "we're stepping it up. I was pretty impressed today," he said.

Minutes after the 4-3 win, Dawson was out on the ice helping to run the varsity team's practice. He had swapped the charcoal colored fleece that he wore during the game for a Middlebury hockey warm-up jacket, but his yellow tie and sky blue button down shirt remained on underneath. Suffice it to say, Dawson and the tie fit perfectly.

BY THE NUMBERS

By Jeff Patterson, Sports Editor

3-2	Score by which the Middlebury men's hockey team beat St. Anselm in the Holiday Classic at Kenyon Arena on Dec. 31.
3-2	Score by which the Middlebury men's hockey team beat St. Anselm 20 days later at Kenyon Arena on Jan. 20, making it the fourth time in a row the Panthers scored exactly three goals to beat the Hawks.
14	Penalty minutes served by St. Anselm on Saturday afternoon, including two minutes for high-sticking, four for cross-checking and four for interference.
14	Penalty minutes served by St. Anselm on the last Sunday of 2006, including two minutes for high-sticking, four for cross-checking and four for interference.
.286	Power play percentage (2 for 7) for St. Anselm on Saturday. Their second power play goal came in the third period after a cross-checking penalty.
.286	Power play percentage (2 for 7) for Middlebury on Dec. 31. Their second power play goal came in the third period after a cross-checking penalty.

Baker pulls upset in five sets

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24

Haven, Conn.

The Yale Invitational was a resounding success for the women's team as they finished the weekend 2-1. They beat the University of Virginia team, ranked 23rd, as well as 27th ranked Connecticut College. Their lone loss came at the hands of a very dangerous Bates team, currently ranked ninth in the nation.

Co-Captain Hannah Baker '07 was very proud of the team's performance at New Haven. "The team played really well and fought so hard at every level," she said. "And in our one loss, we played closer to Bates than we have in many years."

In Middlebury's first match against the University of Virginia, the fledgling UVA squash team did manage a little bit of a fight before Middlebury finished off the match at 8-1. In the most exciting match, Caroline Woodworth '09 used the full five games to defeat her opponent. After two heartbreaking games, she found herself down 0-2 before turning the tables on her opponent and grinding out an exhilarating 3-2 victory.

The victory over Conn. College proved just as easy, as Middlebury trounced the Camels 7-2. The match marked Middlebury's second victory over the Camels this season.

While the 7-2 loss in the Bates match surely was disappointing, there was nothing upsetting about the play of Baker and Sally Hatfield '09. Both beat their Bates opponents and finished the weekend with 3-0 records.

Baker's match versus Bates, however, was the main showcase. Baker finished last season ranked 70th in the country, only four seeds behind her opponent Kelsey Engman. The match promised to be exciting before the two women even stepped out onto the court.

Baker found herself down early as she was victimized by a ferocious Engman forehand. However, after two quick games, Baker made an adjustment and began hitting precise rails to the deep corners, and more importantly to Engman's backhand side. Even with the overall match out of reach, Baker put on a show for all the spectators by digging herself out of an 0-2 hole, and beating Engman to the tune of 3-9, 2-9, 9-6, 9-3 and 9-5.

Baker said, "Early on I was playing her game, and going for too many hard winners. I just started to play more consistently, and frustrated her by drawing on the points and the match longer."

After a tight third game, which went to Baker, the final two were relative cakewalks. The thrilling match concluded a stellar weekend for the team captain.

INSIDE THE LOCKER ROOM

Simi Hamilton '09 puts his ski poles down for a Campus poll

By James Kerrigan
Sports Editor

With a name like Simi, people take notice.

With cross-country skiing ability and a name like Simi, people really take notice.

With cross-country skiing ability, a name like Simi and a nickname like "Simitron 5000," people really, really take notice.

The Aspen, Colo. native had plenty of snow to practice on over Christmas break and as a result, at the St. Michael's Carnival — the first of 2007 — he was anything but rusty.

When skiing at lower elevation, and not out west, Simi finished sixth in the 10 K free, right behind teammate and fellow-classmate Tim Reynolds '09. Along with Matthew Johnson '08, the two helped the Panthers take third in the men's classic sprint relay the next day.

Simi has a sister, Jenny '07, who is the captain of the women's team. She also had a good weekend. Jenny finished second in the 5 K free event, 4.6 seconds behind Dartmouth's Hannah Dreissigacker.

Inside the Locker Room had to make a slight exception this week because Simi's roommate is also a teammate. A friend was a selected to take on Simi's sister (also a teammate) and the questions.

The pressure is on Jenny. How can a sibling lose in an event like this?

Courtesy

Teammate/Sister vs. Friend

	S. Hamilton	J. Hamilton	DiFiore
What is your second favorite sport or activity?	Procrastination, then climbing	Climbing (1)	Climbing (1)
What kind of skis do you use?	Fischer	Fischer (1)	Salomon (0)
Any noteworthy nicknames?	Simitron Five-thousand	Simitron 5000, Little Salad (1)	Sim (0)
What do you want to do when you grow up?	I don't want to grow up	Happy (0)	Mountain Guide (0)
What is the all-time best movie?	The Big Lebowski	The Big Lebowski (1)	The Big Lebowski (1)
What kind of deodorant did you use this morning?	Gillette	Deodor-what? (0)	Old Spice (0)
What was your favorite childhood book?	"Goodnight Moon"	"Goodnight Moon" (1)	"Dr. Seuss" (0)
final score...		**5**	**2**

This was the second time siblings have participated in Inside the Locker Room, only this time, it was the older sister and teammate that came out on top.

It is likely that many years ago Jenny Hamilton would put her younger brother to bed with a reading of "Goodnight Moon." Tonight, however, Jenny Hamilton will fall asleep victorious in the Inside the Locker Room competition by doubling-up her opponent Bart DiFiore.

When Simi Hamilton is not listening to the rhythm of waxing his skis, he most likely has the beats of underground hip/hop artists filling his speakers. From Immortal Technique to Sweatshop Union, the relatively unknown groups populate Simi Hamilton's iTunes library.

Much to the disappointment of the ski team, there has been a shortage of early season snow this winter, but the same cannot be said about nicknames for the sophomore skier. His friends and teammates may have a long list of potential nicknames, but there is sure to be one name at the top of many race lists by season's end — Simeon Hamilton.

The Hamiltons and the rest of the ski team will travel south to compete at the UNH Carnival over the weekend.

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

Date	Sport	Vs.	Result	Comments
Jan. 19 Jan. 20	W. Basketball	Amherst Trinity	65-59 L 73-69 W	Lani Young '08 had 17 points and 12 rebounds in the win against Trinity.
Jan. 19 Jan. 20	M. Basketball	Amherst Trinity	79-73 L 82-67 L	Thompson '07 scored 19 points on the 19th, but #2 Jeffs were too much.
Jan. 20 Jan. 21	W. Hockey	Utica R.I.T.	4-2 W 3-1 W	Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 has six goals and three assists in the seven games of 2007.
Jan. 19 Jan. 20	M. Hockey	N.E.C. St. Anselm	4-3 L 3-2 W	Charlie Townsend '10 and Mickey Gilchrist '08 each scored two goals.
Jan. 20	Swim & Dive	Union	M: 174-103 W W: 160-136 W	Marika Ross '08 won the 100-yard butterfly and the 200-yard IM.
Jan. 20	Skiing	St. Michael's	3rd	Midd was first in men's GS, women's slalom and women's 5K freestlye.

sportsbriefs

by Geoff Homer

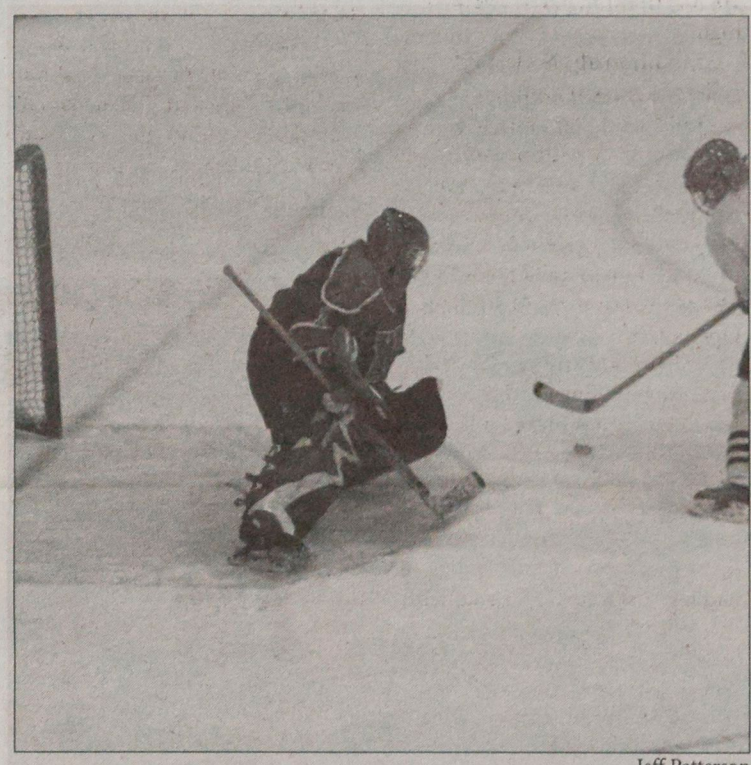
Women's hockey wins two more

The women's hockey team continued its success this season as the number three-ranked Panthers beat Utica and RPI last weekend. The Panthers have not lost a game in their last 13 contests, and hold their record at 12-1-1.

Friday night the Panthers beat Utica 4-2 in a non-conference game. The Panthers entered the second period trailing 2-1 after a short-handed goal by Lacey Farrell '08. Goals from Karen Levin '08 and Abby Kurtz-Phelan '07 in the second period put the Panthers up 3-2. Captain Shannon Sylvester '07, who has the most goals for Middlebury this season, added the game's final goal in the third period. Angie Todd '08 had 24 saves in goal to get the win.

On Saturday, the Panthers took on tenth-ranked RIT at Hamilton College, which they won 3-1. Shannon Tarrant '07 added the only goal of the first period with an assist from Erika Nakamura '09. In the second period, first-year Ashley Bairos added another tally from a feed by Molly Vitt '09. RIT came right back and scored on a 5-3 power-play to make it a 2-1 contest. However, Heather McCormack '10 gave the Panthers some insurance with a little less than 13 minutes remaining. Lani Wright '10 stopped 16 shots on goal to get the victory for Middlebury.

This weekend brings rematches against Colby and Bowdoin, both at home in Kenyon Arena. Earlier this month, Middlebury traveled to Maine and defeated Colby 5-2, then trounced Bowdoin 4-1. Surely both teams will be looking for revenge after the Panthers humiliated them on their home rinks.



Jeff Patterson

Indoor track competes at UVM

The men's and women's track teams competed in a three-team race this past Friday at the University of Vermont along with McGill University. Both teams placed third, and UVM took first in each meet.

Jennifer Brenes '09 captured the 55-meter hurdles with a time of 8.66 while Kelley Coughlan '09 finished right behind in second. Simone Weisman '09 captured the 600-meters with a time of 1:41.12. First-year Anjuli Demers took first place in the 300-meter dash.

Ian O'Reilly placed third for Middlebury in the one mile run while Robert Athan '10 captured the long jump with a meet-high jump of 19'6". Pascal Losambe captured the 35-lb weight throw with a distance of 43'2", and later added another victory in the shot put with a throw of 44'5.5".

This weekend the Panthers cross the border for an event at McGill in Montreal.

Men's squash has best weekend ever

On Jan. 13 and 14 at the Yale Round Robin, the men's Club Squash team made history, and took a giant leap forward in their push for Varsity status and respect in the collegiate squash world. The Panthers impressively beat three of the four varsity squash programs they faced, defeating Colby, Wesleyan and George Washington, and fell short against Bowdoin.

It was in their victory over Colby, however, that they re-wrote Middlebury Club Squash history. Entering the match, they knew that 22nd ranked Colby was vulnerable, especially the lower half of their lineup. The Panthers pounced on the Mules in exciting 5-4 fashion by winning at the 2, 6, 7, 8, and 9 slots. The win proved to be monumental for the Panthers as Colby was the highest ranked team that Middlebury's club squad had ever defeated.

Co-Captain Zach Foster '06.5 could not have been more proud of his team. "[Colby] trounced us last year at NESCACs so it was great to leave the courts with the taste of revenge on our lips. We simply had more heart than them from top to bottom on the ladder," said the senior leader.

The 26th ranked Middlebury club squash team is back in action this Sunday at 1:00 pm as they play host to Vassar College.

Women's basketball hits three threes to top Trinity

By Andrew Donnantuono
Staff Writer

The women's basketball team fought hard for a split against Amherst and Trinity this weekend in Pepin Gymnasium. In both games, Middlebury held double-digit leads only to see the opposition chip away at them. Amherst successfully completed their comeback and finished off a 65-59 win on Friday evening, but Trinity's efforts on Saturday were in vain and Middlebury escaped with a close 73-69 victory. Middlebury's 73 points were 11 above their season average.

"We played hard against Amherst and we beat the team (Trinity) that knocked us out of playoff contention last year," said Emily Johnson '09.

Trying to get back on track after losing at NESCAC-leading Bowdoin on Jan. 13, Middlebury pounced on Amherst in the early-going courtesy of three three-point bombs by Emily Johnson '09, the second of which was nearly from NBA range.

The Panthers played with a high level of intensity, particularly on offense, and had their biggest lead of the game at 25-14 at 6:18 in the first half. Amherst, who used only three substitutes, cut into the lead with such determination that Middlebury was up just three at the break, 28-25. Although Middlebury had a sizeable lead out of the gates, possession was back and forth, and, besides Johnson's triples, they never truly owned any facet of the game in the first half.

Middlebury made it to 39-29 at 16:52 in the second half, but then the game for the Panthers spiraled out of control. Amherst used their height and speed to take advantage of fast break opportunities, eventually tying it at 41-41.

"I think there were a combination of things that let them back in the game," said Johnson. "For one, we didn't shoot well."

Middlebury began missing some easy shots inside, and the gap continued to increase. Despite taking nine more shots than the Lord Jeffs in the second half, the Panthers could only muster 12-34 from the floor, for 35 percent shooting. None of the starters had an exceptionally productive game statistically, although Jennifer Kelleher '08 contributed nicely off the bench with 14 points on 6-9 shooting. Amherst's Kerry O'Loughlin and first-year Samantha Swenson led their team with 15 and 14 points respectively

See Young's Double, page 20

Chris Heinrich
Katie Fisher '08 had 10 points and four assists in a 73-69 win over Trinity.

Mike Bayersdorfer
Eric LaFreniere celebrates, but Midd's rally was not enough to overcome N.E.C.

Pilgrims discover a new world, beat Panthers late

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

"Dum-de-de-dum, de-de-dum-de-de-dum, de-daa-daaaaa." After a two-month absence that saw losses to Plattsburg State, Southern Maine, Skidmore, Colby and Bowdoin — teams the Middlebury men's hockey team beat by a combined score of 35–12 over seven games last season — Big & Rich's "Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy" is back and blaring from the Kenyon Arena PA system.

Planned, anyone?

"*That* was intentional," said defenseman Jack Kinder '09 about the song's recent resurgence. "We wanted that extra jump to try to get that spark back."

Middlebury	3
Williams	1

The Williams Ephs could not have appreciated the musical comeback or the one staged by the Panthers on the ice on Jan. 16. Williams held the lead late into the second period and must have had visions of doing what Colby and Bowdoin did to the Panthers earlier that weekend, but when it was all over, Middlebury milked the white clad Purple Cows 3-1, scoring the last three goals of the game. Brett Shirreffs's '07 slap-shot deflected off an Eph's skate, ricocheting by goalie Mark Pulde with 1:16 left in the second period

Yev Saidachev '07 rifled in the game-winner in the third (from just over the blue-line) over Pulde's stick for his third red light of the year. John Sales '07 closed the sale on a pass from Jamie McKenna '09. Ross Cherry '08 made the necessary 20 stops, and the netminder in the number one jersey won his 39th career game.

Purposeful, anyone?

"Tom Maldonado '08, his freshman year, we put [the song] in there," said Saidachev. "We've had it in there for two years, but then for some reason they changed it this year. Then, we were going through that stretch with things not going too well and Tom wanted it back in. We think it's going to be a turning point."

Middlebury	3
New England College	4

Friday night's game with the New England College Pilgrims started late and ended late. An accident on Route Seven delayed the game that was originally slated for a 7 p.m. start by almost an hour. But when the

See Hockey rocks, page 21

Ski team feels highs then low temperatures

By Geoff Homer
Sports Editor

Two and a half months — that is how long the alpine and nordic ski teams waited to experience their first collegiate competition of the season. The Panthers came out firing on all cylinders and led the St. Michael's Carnival after day one of the two-day event. Ultimately, the team finished in third place behind Dartmouth and UVM after a difficult Saturday for both squads.

When asked about the opening carnival, alpine co-captain Zeke Davisson '08 said, "There were definitely some first-carnival jitters because of a lack of racing due to the snow conditions this year, but we're really positive about where this puts us for the rest of the season."

Men's giant slalom started off the carnival season at Smugglers Notch. Putting together two fast and consistent runs, Andrew Wagner '09 was the top-finisher for the Panthers, in third place. In surprising mid-season form after a semester abroad in Paris, Alec Tarberry '08, the first-run leader, finished fourth, less than a second behind the winner, Francis Fortin-Houle from Dartmouth. Davisson rounded out the top-three with a tenth place showing, helping the Panthers take the overall GS win.

The women finished in second

See Carnival season, page 21

Squash's hopes of playing in N.Y. squashed

By Simon Keyes
Sports Editor

As far back as the records show, the Middlebury women's squash team has never had a match cancelled. This past Saturday, however, wintry conditions in upstate New York made road travel unsafe and halted the team bus before it could even depart from Adirondack Circle and motor towards Hamilton College. The team now has two weeks of preparation before they host Vassar in their first home match of the season this coming Sunday.

The news of a cancelled match was taken as both a blessing and a disappointment. "We didn't go to Hamilton … which was too bad because we were looking forward to a competitive match," said Co-Captain Kara Zarchin '06.5.

The match versus Hamilton certainly promised to be thrilling as the two teams are neck and neck in the College Squash Associations national rankings. Middlebury currently resides at 14th in the nation, while Hamilton lurks only one slot behind at 15th.

The cancellation, however, allowed the team some much-needed rest after a grueling yet successful tournament Jan. 13 and 14 in New

See Baker pulls upset, page 22

Riches to rags, and carrying their hockey bags

By Jeff Patterson
Sports Editor

It is Mark Messier night at Madison Square Garden and John Dawson '04 is sitting in the upper deck. He is the only one wearing a suit in the nosebleed section and he sticks out like a broken nose.

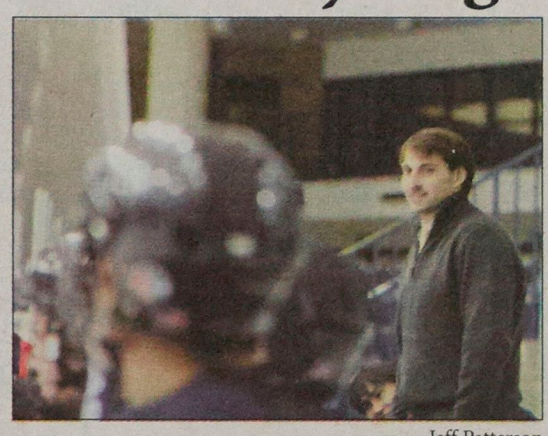
Earlier that morning Dawson was hard at work at Morgan Stanley. Now he is looking down at Lord Stanley's Cup, which was sitting on a table next to the man who is about to be honored for helping the New York Rangers win it in 1994.

Fast forward to Wednesday, Jan. 17. This time Dawson is a lot closer to the ice — no more than a couple of feet away. He is standing up on the platform, behind the Middlebury Junior Varsity team's bench. He can see everything, and just about everything happens according to his commands.

When George Baumann '08 is in the penalty box, and his infraction time is winding down, the defenseman looks toward Dawson and asks, "Coach, where do you want me?"

You heard it right, Dawson, the captain of the '04 national championship team is back as an assistant coach and he coaches the JV team. And no, he does not make the commute back to the Big Apple to his desk job. He has left the rigors of Wall Street for College Street and he does not regret it.

Dawson's decision to leave the financial world to go into coaching was a surprise to many of his co-workers. "I received shocked looks, but by the end, so many people said they were so envious, and they gave me handshakes all around," he said. His one claim to fame, he told Coach Bill Beaney's Coaching Young Athletes J-Term class, was that he was the only non-Morgan Stanley employee invited to the Christmas Party.



Jeff Patterson

Dawson compared his having to get out of bed every morning, while working in the City that never sleeps, to the guy in the NyQuil commercial. "I didn't want to get out of bed," he said. "I didn't want to read *The Wall Street Journal* on the way into work."

The youngest in his family, John had always followed what his siblings did. He never really had to make a "major" decision before — before he

See Dawson notches, page 22

this week in sports

Inside the Locker Room: Simi Hamilton
Who knows the cross country skier better? page 23

games to watch
Women's Hockey vs. Bowdoin, Jan. 26 at 7:00
Men's Basketball vs. Williams, Jan. 27 at 3:00

Men's Basketball:
Panthers fall to both Amherst and Trinity on a tough road-trip, page 20